

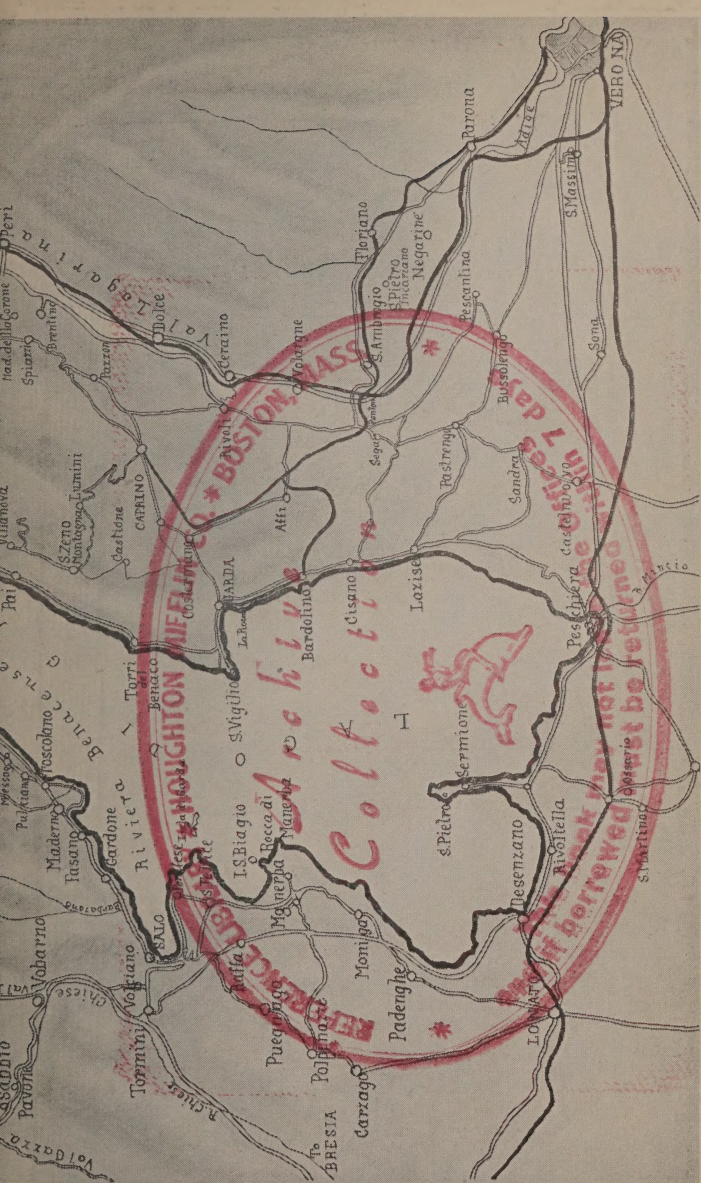
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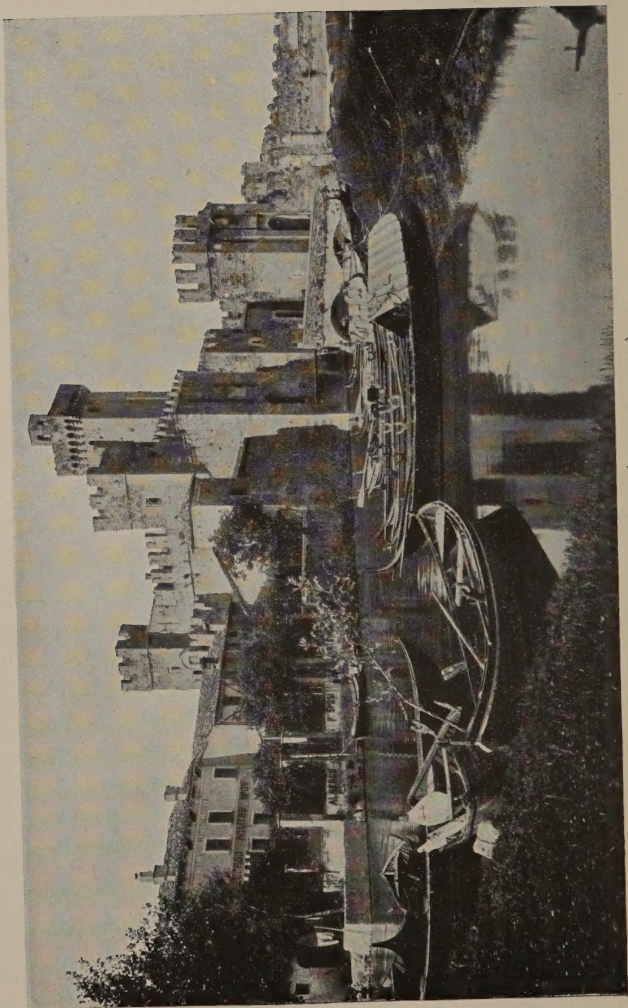
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LAGO DI GARDA
AND NEIGHBOURHOOD



THE CASTLE OF SERMIONE (LAGO DI GARDA)

LAGO DI GARDA
AND NEIGHBOURHOOD
VERONA, BRESCIA, LAGO D'ISEO
AND BERGAMO

BY
HELENA L. WATERS

WITH 31 ILLUSTRATIONS
AND 2 MAPS

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PREFACE

THIS little book is written from the tourist point of view, whether the travellers be rich or poor, using luxurious private cars, or availing themselves of the many motor diligences and steamers which are so inexpensive and convenient. Hotels can be found to suit the needs of all purses.

Motoring roads abound and are usually safe and well-made, and the distances given are as far as possible by the roads ; but as a rule there is little difference by road or rail. Some discrepancies will be found, as sometimes measurements are taken from the centre of a town, or from one end or the other.

For the hire of a private car the charge is from three to six liras a kilometre, according to whether it is a fashionable place or not, and the charge for a horsed carriage is about two-thirds of that sum. A kilometre is rather more than half a mile ; eight kilometres nearly correspond to five miles.

LAGO DI GARDA

All travellers in Italy are acquainted with the Italian Lakes, and the names of Maggiore and Como are household words.

Since the Great War another Italian lake, with the extensive territory to the north of it, has been opened up for the benefit of travellers, and what was once a vexatious journey, owing to being obliged to pass through the Austrian frontier and Custom House, obtain Austrian money, and talk German instead of Italian, is now free of worry, for these difficulties have been swept away with the lives of those men who fought so valiantly in the mountains, often suspended in mid-air or scaling breakneck precipices.

Amongst these were some of our English troops, as they fought side by side with the Italians on the tops of these

LAGO DI GARDA

mountains by Lago di Garda, and won for themselves unstinted praise from their fellow-fighters, who admired Tommy's pluck in a tight corner and his general good behaviour and discipline.

Since 1918 when the victorious Italian armies appeared on the Brenner, the Südtirol of the Austrian Empire passed into the hands of Italy, and is now called "Venezia Tridentina," the old name of Trent.

It comprises the middle and upper basins of the Adige, and includes the Adamello-Presanella mountains, the Ortler and Brenta Group and the Dolomite region.

The south or purely Italian-speaking part of "Venezia Tridentina" is known as the "Trentino," and the north as "Alto Adige."

The beautiful Lago di Garda is very accessible, for it can be approached from all the points of the compass, which is a valuable asset; but the simplest route for English people is by the express trains between Milan, Brescia, Verona and Venice, as they stop at Desenzano on the lake, which is the chief approach from the south.

Travellers will find amazing mountain and lake scenery combined, for the contrasts are most striking and there is little monotony. In the south is the plain watered by the River Mincio, and the lovely peninsula of Sermione, with its perfect castle.

From here the ground rises, and there are low, well-wooded hills with luxuriant vegetation, while as the advance is continued northward the mountains become rugged and wild, with the base washed by the waters of the lake, which is magnificent in storm and cloud, as well as in brilliant sunshine.

Poets of all ages and nationalities, such as Catullus, Virgil, Dante, Goethe, Heine, Carducci, and Tennyson, have visited these parts and sung the praises of the lake.

There is no lack of recreation, for there are splendid walks in all directions, both on the plain and in the woods, stiff climbs up the mountains, with golfing, boating, bathing, fishing, shooting, tennis and croquet, as well as excursions by steamer.

PREFACE

This new Italian region of the Trentino and Tirol not only contains winter resorts for those in search of warmth and sunshine, but also summer ones, for there are resorts in the mountains over 5,000 feet high, which are now coming to the fore, where golf can be played in this glorious, invigorating air, as well as at places on the lake level, so when the latter gets too hot, a move can be made to rarer altitudes.

The opening up of these mountain resorts is due in a measure to the Great War, for the military had to make new roads in all directions for taking up their guns and ammunition to the tops of the mountains, from which the Italians ousted the Austrians, and, wherever possible, those roads are now being kept up for the benefit of the travelling public.

The roads are everywhere excellent and can be negotiated by any private car that has good climbing qualities with first-rate brakes and is not too heavy. There are public motor services in all directions, and mules can be obtained in many parts for those who cannot do much on foot, but side-saddles are very rarely to be found.

When the beautiful scenery to the south of Trento has been explored, the main road northwards leads still further into the heart of the mountains, and the well-known Austrian resorts of Meran (Merano), Botzen (Bolzano), and Brixen (Bressanone) can be easily visited, for they are also now included in the new Italian territory, under slightly different names.

The Italian Alps of the Dolomite region to the east, and the Adamello and Ortler groups to the west, with the magnificent Stelvio Pass 9,000 feet high, are equal to those of Switzerland and amongst the highest, and glaciers and cascades abound, as well as picturesque remains of castles and monasteries of the Middle Ages on the lower slopes of the mountains.

Nestling among these mountains of the Adamello group is the lovely little Lago d'Iseo, surrounded by snow-clad peaks on the eastern side. It lies between Lago di Garda and Como to the north-west of Brescia, and though little

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known to the British tourist at present it will be more heard of in the future.

In the Trentino the conditions of the north and south intermingle: the gloomy pine woods of the former combine with the orange and mulberry plantations of the south, the purple vineyards with fruit trees, while the valleys are golden with maize.

This part is famous for the variety of its minerals and the richness of its flora, while the scenery and architecture are magnificent and beautiful.

The artist and photographer will not know which way to turn first, for there are pictures on every side; the botanist will lose himself on the flowery slopes of the mountains, while both he and the geologist will risk their lives in the endeavour to reach some fancied specimen on the edge of a crag above their heads, which promises to be more uncommon than those already discovered.

The archæologist will not be disappointed in his search, for Etruscan and Roman remains abound, and many interesting inscriptions and ancient carvings have been unearthed in various places.

The enthusiastic Alpine climber will find unlimited possibilities to try the muscles of his body and steadiness of his head.

In the ever-changing clouds and mist, which only half-reveal the beauties of the scenery, the mighty peaks of the Dolomites appear in the far-off distance like huge fingers on a giant's hand.

For the nerve-racked of these restless days seeking health, strength, and rest there are sheltered nooks in the valleys for those requiring warmth; while for those of stronger physique there are resorts from 2,000 to 6,000 feet high, where the cool, pure mountain air braces and invigorates, and sends the weary traveller home a new-made man, physically and mentally refreshed, to again tackle the problems of life.

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DISTANCES

Km.		Km.	
	Desenzano to—	27	Tignale to Gardola
8	Peschiera		Riva-s-Garda to—
8	Sermione S.	1	Bastione
5·9	Sermione N.	4·5	Ponale Cascata
6	Padenge	6	Biacesa
9	Moniga	6·5	Pregasina
18·3	Salò	10	Molina
	Salò to—	11	Lago di Ledro
2·1	S. Bartolemo	14	Pieve di Ledro
2·7	Cisano	15·5	Bezzeca
3	Portese	18·9	Tiarno di Sotto
5	Isola di Garda	28·7	Àmpola
1·5	Manerba	31·7	Storo
	Salò to—	42	Malè to Mendola
3·3	Cunettone	25	Mendola „ Bolzano
4	Tórmini	4	Riva-s-Garda to Monto
9·1	Vobarno		Brione
19·3	Barghè	8·3	Monte Brione to
24	Vestone		Tórbole
29	Lavenone	1	Tórbole to Nago
32	Idro	4	Nago „ Loppio
29	Brescia	8	Loppio „ Mori
	RIVIERA BRESCIANA	3	Mori „ Rovereto
3	Salò to Gardone	23·2	Rovereto „ Trento
2·3	Gardone „ Fasano	183	Trento „ Innsbruck
2·3	Fasano „ Maderno	5·5	Riva „ Arco
1·4	Maderno „ Toscolano	15·5	Arco „ Trento
5	Toscolano to Bogliaco	6·6	Riva „ Tenno
2	Bogliaco „ Gargnano	11	„ „ Lago di
14	Gargnano „ Tignale		Tenno

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Km.		Km.	
3.5	Riva to Cascate de Varone	16	Garda to Sega di Cava-jon
	FROM LAGO D'IDRO N.	18	" " Domegliara
5.2	Pontecáffaro to Condino	20	" " S. Ambrogio
9.6	Lodrone to Condino	24	" " S. Pietro
20	Condino " Tione	25	" " S. Floriano
16.8	Tione " Pinzolo	29	" " Negrar
12.8	Pinzolo " Campiglio	37	" " VERONA
12.8	Campiglio to Dimaro		
4.8	Dimaaro to Malè	34.4	Caprino to VERONA
		18.3	Verona " Peschiera
12	Riva " Malcesine	19.7	Peschiera " Desenzano
10	Malcesine to Castelletto	6.3	Desenzano to Lonato
10	Casteletto to Torri	15.6	Lonato to BRESCIA
4.5	Torri to S. Vigilio	13.7	Brescia " Chiari
3.5	San Vigilio to Garda	45.5	Chiari " Treviglio
4	Garda to Bardolino	39.9	Treviglio " MILANO
5	Bardolino to Lazise		
8	Lazise " Peschiera	10	BRESCIA " Rezzato
		19	Rezzato " Tórmini
		9	Tórmini " Salò
	ADIGE VALLEY	17	Brescia " Bornato-Calino
7.2	Trento to Matarello	9	Bornato " Iseo
16	Matarello,, Roveredo	9	Iseo " Marone
4.8	Roveredo " Mori	9	Marone " Pisogne
2.4	Mori " Marco	4	Pisogne " Lovere
2.6	Marco " Ala	12	Pisogne " Darfo
10	Ala " Peri	13	Darfo " Breno
11	Peri " Ceraino	31	Breno " Edolo
26	Ceraino " VERONA		
	VALPOLICELLA	5	Lóvere " Pianico
8	Garda to Caprino-Veronese	23	Pianico " Trescore
11	" " Affi	17	Trescore " BÉRGAMO
			VAL TROMPIA
		20	Brescia to Gardone

DISTANCES

Km.		Km.	
9	Gardone to Tavernole	12	Gorgonzola to Caseina
		8	Caseina „ Milano
18	Brescia to Rovate		VALLE BREMBANA
10	Rovato „ Palazzolo	10	Bergamo to Alme
22	Palazzolo „ BÉRGAMO	10	Alme „ Zogno
		5	Zogno „ San Pelle-
33	Bérgamo to Lecco, Lago di Como		grino
		6	S. Pelleg. „ S. Giovan-
37	Venice to Padova		ni Bianco
31	Padova „ Vicenza		
52	Vicenza „ Verona		VALLE SERIANA
37	Verona „ Desenzano	33	Bergamo to Clusone
28	Desenzano to Brescia		(The last four have electric
50	Brescia to Treviglio		trams)
31	Treviglio „ MILANO (by railway)	17	Bergamo to Cisano-
			Caprino
22	Bergamo to Treviglio	16	Cisano „ Lecco (Lago
39'9	Treviglio „ MILANO		di Como)
15	Bergamo „ Vaprio	38	Bergamo „ Monza
11	Vaprio „ Gorgonzola	14'7	Monza „ Milano

LAGO DI GARDA AND NEIGHBOURHOOD

MOTORING

ONE difficulty in this part of the world is the multiplicity of the same name ; for instance, on the Lago di Garda there is a little village of Gardone south of the Manerba headland, also the better-known one on the Brescian Riviera, and another small town in the Val Trompia north of Brescia. Castello, Caprino, Vigilio, and other places also furnish examples. The name Maggiore abounds everywhere.

The lakes of Garda and Iseo and all the surrounding country are ideal for motorists with their own car, as so many circular tours can be made.

Neither steamers nor trains fit in conveniently for this mode of travelling : a given place can generally be reached quite comfortably, but no arrangement is made for leaving it again the same day, and hotel accommodation in some parts is of the most primitive description, and ladies might not be satisfied with what they find.

In practically all places there is good local wine to be obtained, and Italian food made of " pasta," that is, macaroni and spaghetti, polenta, and eggs, with which an omelet can be made ; but meat is scarce and dear, so that it is advisable to take some luncheon, which can usually be obtained at the hotel where the night has been passed.

If an Italian meal is to be prepared, a half hour's wait must be allowed for it, and the midday meal abroad may be any time between 11.30 and 12.30.

LAGO DI GARDA

MOTORING ROUTES

From *Brescia* the Val Garza can be followed to Édolo, Barghè, and Vestone to Lago d'Idro, along the western shore by the Rocca d'Anfo to Cáffaro, which is at the north end of the Lago d'Idro, thence along the Val d'Ampola to Lago Ledro, two lakes of which the names are very likely to be confused (advisable to take luncheon with you ; good wine to be obtained at Mezzolago), and down the wonderful Ponale Road to *Riva*, di Trento, where the night can be passed.

Or at *Barghè* another good road branches off southwards by Sabbio, Vobarno, Volciano to *Salò*, whence a run can be made along the western shore of the Lago Garda through Gardone, Fasano, Maderno to *Toscolano*.

Here a short divergence can be made up the stony valley to the Cascade and printing works, and back again, and the run continued through Boliaco, where the English golf, to Gargnano.

A thrilling zigzag road with narrow corners follows, where the car must be backed if a large one, and the driver exercise great presence of mind to safely negotiate the road overhanging the lake to the commune of Tignale (14 km.).

Here the driving road at present ends, but the military one to Tremósine, made during the Great War, is to be repaired, and it will then join the one up from Campione to Tremósine. To-day it is necessary to return by the route just traversed to *Salò*, where a night can be spent at the Hotel Metropole.

The return can be made to *Brescia* by a shorter but less interesting route, following the tram line.

Another route from *Salò* is by the south bend of the bay in which *Salò* is situated, either by Cisano (2·7 km.) and Portese (3 km.), or by Cunettone (3·3 km.) along the ridge above to the headland of Manerba, which, on turning southwards, leads to *Desenzano* (18·3 km.). Here a night can be spent at the Hotel Mayer opposite the landing stage, if desired.

From *Desenzano* the road crosses the plain, and at about

MOTORING ROUTES

6 km. distance the road leading up the peninsula (4 km.) of *Sermione* to the castle, San Pietro, and so-called cave of Catullus can be followed, but the return must be by the same route.

A minor road to the south leads to *Solferino* and the tower of San Martino, which can be inspected; thence another road goes to Castiglione della Stiviere, and on through Ponolengo and back to the Lago di Garda at *Peschiera*, around which the curious fortifications under the grassy mounds will be noted.

Here the main road will be left and a minor road northwards followed for 10 km. to *Lazise*, with its fine castle, the rival of Sermione, through Cisano and Bardolino to *Garda* (24 km.), in the bay of the same name. Here a halt can be made at the Hotel Terminus, where a simple meal with good wine and coffee can be obtained.

The road continues round the bay to the west to *San Vigilio* (3 km.), and at the point where it turns northwards is an avenue of cypress trees on the left, leading down to the little harbour and the Locanda, where also a good meal can be obtained.

From San Vigilio the road continues close to the water, passing through Torri del Benaco, Castelletto to *Malcesine*; but after viewing the picturesque castle a return must be made the same way to *Garda*, whence *Caprino-Veronese* and the *Madonna di Corona* can be visited, and another road taken to see the battle-field of *Rivoli*.

The road goes southwards to Sega, where the river can be crossed, and then the road divides—the one goes south-west to Verona, the other follows the course of the River Adige north to *Mori*, where it again divides, the main road going to *Trento*, Bolzano, and Innsbruck, and the other to *Riva di Trento* on the Lago di Garda.

The following are *Autobus* routes and therefore suitable for cars of all descriptions :

Hrs. mins.

1	30	Malè—Dimaro—Campiglio
3		Malè—Fucine—Tonale—Édolo

LAGO DI GARDA

Hrs. mins.

2	30	Riva—Tiarno—Storo—Ca Rossa
11	0	Riva—Ballino—Ponte Arche—Comano—Moveneno
4	30	Riva—Arco—Sarche—Tione—Pinzola—Madonna di Campiglio (75 km.)
4	0	Brescia—Vestone (39·4 km.)—Anfo—Ponte Caffaro—Casa Rossa
9	15	Bolzano—Carezza—Canazei—Cortina d'Ampezzo
1	45	Bolzano—Sarentino
1	0	Bolzano—Merano
10	45	Bolzano — Carezza — Predazzo — Rolle — San Martino
7	0	Bolzano—Mondola—Malè—Campiglio
2	40	Trento—Vattaro—Lavarone
1	0	Trento—Serraia di Pine
4	15	Trento—Borgo—Castel Tesino
3	0	Rovereto—Calliano—Folgaria—Lavarone
3	0	Rovereto—Valli—Schio

LAGO DI GARDA

The Lake of Garda now occupies a totally different position from that which it has hitherto done, for since the Great War (1914-1918) the Austrians have been entirely dispossessed, and the whole of this beautiful lake is now in the hands of the Italians, who will welcome the arrival of English visitors there.

It is most easy of access, and accommodation in many parts is first-rate, while others will suit the needs of people with short purses, if they are content to do without cosmopolitan hotels replete with every luxury.

The steamers which ply upon the lake afford a ready and pleasant means of visiting all the places on its banks, and the fares for that are very moderate, and luggage is conveyed on them at a nominal rate.

The motor can be utilized with great advantage, although there are still some places where roads do not yet exist ;

THE LAKE OF GARDA

but so many valleys with good roads lie between the surrounding mountains, giving exquisite views, that a car would be in constant requisition.

Pedestrians and climbers will find an easy outlet for their energies, as the mountain excursions are in most cases not dangerous, and there are mule-paths or footpaths in so many directions.

The best month in the year for this method of enjoying the scenery seems to be September, for in the spring there is still much snow upon the mountain-tops, and the summer is very hot in the lowlands, although most enjoyable when some altitude has been reached. October is too late, as it is usually the wet season in that part and is accompanied by snow in the higher regions. In some seasons there is a fair amount of rain in the early spring. Many of the hotels are full in the winter, as they are well warmed, and the adherents of golf and tennis can follow those favourite pastimes in comfort.

ACCESSIBILITY

The Lake of Garda, the Roman Benacus, can be approached by various routes. It is on the main railway route from Paris, Milan, Verona, Padua, and Venice, and all the express trains stop at Desenzano, the main railway station for visiting the lake. From Verona a local railway goes by Affi to Garda on the east side of the lake. From Brescia both road and tram go to Salò on the west side. From Verona the main line to the Trentino is on the eastern side of Monte Baldo up the Adige valley, and the station on it is Mori, whence a short local line goes to the head of the lake of Garda. For travellers coming from Innsbruck, the same line in the opposite direction can be taken to Trento and Mori.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE LAKE OF GARDA

The Lake of Garda is the largest of the Italian lakes, being 34 miles long and varying in breadth from 3 to 11

LAGO DI GARDA

miles, and ranks next in size to those of Constance and Geneva.

The northern end lies between the mountain range of Monte Baldo (23 miles long) on the east, and the Brescian or Giudicarian Alps on the west, and at the base of the South Rhätian Alps on the north, and in this portion it is only about 3 miles wide, but beyond San Vigilio at the south of Monte Baldo it is $9\frac{1}{2}$ km. across, and further south attains to 16 km.

The southern end is divided into the gulfs of Desenzano and Peschiera by the low peninsula of Sermione, which is 4 km. long,

The scenery changes completely, for the stately grandeur of the north has disappeared; the mountains are low, and have receded into the background.

The lake is only about 200 feet above sea level, and in parts is more than 1,000 feet in depth. Hot springs rise from some parts of it. It is subject to sudden storms, so that the water sometimes resembles a rough sea with high waves. The local south-east wind, called the "Ora," usually rises about 10 a.m. and sweeps away all the lovely reflections in the water.

Good fish abound, especially in the region of Garda, where most of the inhabitants make their living by it. Those found include "trota" or trout, to the size of 25 lbs., "carpione" or salmon trout, "luccio" or pike, "tinca" or tench, "anguilla" or eel, "barbio," or barbel, "cavedono" or carp, "sardella" and "agone" or sardines.

There are plenty of water fowl: "anitra" or wild duck, "folaghe" or coot, water fowl; "gabbiano" or gull, seaweed; "smerghi" or plungeon, "aironi" or heron; also sometimes cormorants, pelicans, and pigeons.

The colour of the lake in the south is turquoise, shading off to granite grey; in the middle deep blue with a greenish hue as it receives the reflections of the mountains in the north, and transparent to a depth of 15 metres (50 feet).

The olive tree abounds, as well as the cypress, laurel, American agave, Indian figs, oleander, and rosemary; while oranges, lemons, citrons, mandarins are much grown with some protection, and the bergamot pear.

MOUNTAINS

MOUNTAINS

Monte Baldo, which forms the eastern shore for about 23 miles of the upper end of the Lake of Garda, appears at first sight very monotonous, with its long, unbroken length, for in many parts the perpendicular limestone rocks come sheer down to the water's edge without any break of moment for thousands of feet. Where some torrent from the snow melting has cut a ravine, patches of green under cultivation may be observed.

This range separates the lake from the Adige valley, and that side is much more broken and varied.

There are four main peaks which break the ridge. The *Altissimo di Nago* (6,815 feet), almost opposite *Limone* at the northern end, gives the widest and finest view over the surrounding country and can be best ascended from near *Brentonico*, by an improved path made by the troops during the Great War (1914-1918); next comes the *Cima di Val Dritta* (6,866 feet) and *Monte Maggiore* (7,212 feet), or *Punta Telegrafo*, at no great distance from it. These two in former days were on either side of the Austrian and Italian frontiers, and they can be reached by paths from *Malcesine*. The *Costebella* section, with *Punta di Naole* (about 7,000 feet), can be approached from *Castelletto di Brenzone*, and also from *Torri del Benaco* by *Castione-Veronese*.

A deep depression—*la Bocca di Navène*—separates the *Baldo Trentino* from the *Baldo Veronese*.

The west bank of the lake in the north is flanked by spurs from the Giudicarian Alps as far as *Gargnano*, whence they recede from the shore, and give place to the *Gardone Riviera*.

On the slopes facing east to the Adige valley the scenery varies from perpendicular rocks to wooded slopes and green pastures. The mountain is noted for the beauty and abundance of its flora, and it is a happy hunting ground for botanists.

The *Sarca River* descending from the *Tirol* flows into the north end of the Lake between *Riva* and *Tórbole*, to the east

LAGO DI GARDA

of Monte Brione, that peculiar-shaped hump like a section of an orange, with its ends north and south. The river flows right through the lake from north to south, where, under the name of Mincio, it flows out at Peschiera and ultimately joins the River Po. Its current is always perceptible in crossing from San Vigilio or Garda to Sirmione; and in rough weather, when the boat is broadside on, the unlucky passengers get a shower bath. In winter it is impossible for a motor boat to land at Peschiera, as it would be dashed to pieces by the combined force of the current and swell.

DESENZANO

We will now begin a tour round the lake, arriving from MILAN (MILANO) by either road or rail at Desenzano, and the best distant view of the Brescian Alps is obtained before reaching Lonato, the station before Desenzano.

All the express trains from Milan and Brescia *en route* for Verona and Venice stop at Desenzano. The train runs into the station over a fine and lofty viaduct, 500 yards long and 100 feet high, with 17 massive pillars, which was built by the Austrians.

The time occupied by the journey from Milan is only about $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours. The railway station is 2 km. from the lake and landing stage for the steamers, but carriages and an omnibus meet the trains. The hotels are in the small town, which is situated in the south-west corner of the Lake of Garda, which is rather low, marshy ground. A stay can be made at the Hotel Splendide e Mayer, opposite the landing stage, in order to explore the place and the surrounding country. A simple albergo, the Due Colombe, is close by. Meals can also be obtained on board the steamers, which ply from here to Riva at the northern extremity of the lake, taking about five hours. By them access is obtained to the Gardone Riviera and to many of the smaller villages.

The lake in the south is divided into two by the 4 km. long promontory of Sirmione, the eastern portion being called the Gulf of Peschiera, and the western, the Gulf of Desenzano.

DESENZANO

In olden days travellers used to stop at Desenzano more than they do now, when the frontier of Austria and Italy was between this place and Peschiera.

Desenzano is of Roman origin, and was the only port of embarkation for the lake at that time, and was known as *Decentia*, a Roman military station and granary. The district was the scene of many battles between Lombards, Venetians, Austrians, French, and Italians.

In A.D. 879 Desenzano was given to the Abbey of San Zeno at Verona by Charlemagne, and from 1426 to 1797 it belonged (with the whole of the lake) to the Venetian Republic. The Pope Pius V tried to take it away, but failed, so for five years he laid it under an interdict and excommunicated the inhabitants, on whom this action had no effect.

In 1859 the Austrians lost the west shore and in 1866 the east shore of the lake, and only the small northern portion remained in their hands till 1918, when they were driven out altogether.

The Castello was built high up on Roman ruins, and in the Middle Ages it commanded the road between Brescia and Verona, and all the women and children took refuge within its walls in time of danger. It has been much restored and altered, but part of the tower now standing is said to be Roman, and some of the wall is still in existence, but the modern buildings are used as barracks.

The parish Church of Santa Maria Maddalena is very old, but it was rebuilt in 1480 and enlarged in 1586; it contains a picture of the Last Supper by Tiepolo.

There are deep arcades round the market-place, under which are the shops (the confectioners' filled with tempting-looking cakes); and on the Piazza Umberto I is a monument to Sant' Angela Merici, a native of Desenzano (1474-1540), who founded the Order of the Ursulines. The tiny harbour adjoining is packed with small craft on Saturday night till Monday morning.

An excursion can be made to *San Martino* from Desenzano, as some local trains stop there, and it is within easy driving distance of Sermione or Peschiera. In this neighbourhood

LAGO DI GARDA

on June 24, 1859, the battle was fought which drove the Austrians away for ever from the south of the lake. They occupied the commanding village of Solferino with a twelve-mile line extending towards Lonato, which was held by the French under Napoleon III, while the Italians, on whose behalf the French were fighting, were stationed at San Martino under Victor Emanuel II. The worst of the fighting took place round Solferino, but the Italians called their victory after the place where the Piedmontese were stationed, "San Martino della Battaglia."

The tower, nearly 250 feet high, built to commemorate the happy termination of Austrian rule, is a landmark for a good part of the lake, and a very fine view is obtained from the platform of it. Inside is a bronze statue of Victor Emanuel II, and busts of eight Italian generals, as well as historical battle pictures on the walls.

There are motor bus services from Desenzano to Brescia (69 km.) occasionally, and also to Cunettone (3 km.) from Salò, but the road does not go by the lake.

SERMIONE

Before proceeding up the lake we will take a look at Sermione, which is at the northern end of a peninsula 4 km. long, and only 120 to 200 metres wide. By car it only takes 30 to 45 minutes, but it is a weary way on foot. The steamer goes there direct from Desenzano and lands its passengers close to the Hotels Sermione and Eden and within sight of the castle tower.

The north end of the peninsula is broad, and that with the village and castle are really an island, as a broad waterway was cut from side to side outside the castle walls, and the entrance from the south is by the drawbridge. This narrow strip of water affords shelter for the fishing boats when not in use.

There are three low hills on this island portion. Cortine to the south is the highest, and two gates of the Roman fortress still exist; Mavino is covered with olive trees of

SERMIONE

great age, and in the midst of them, on the highest part, is the Church of San Pietro, which forms a landmark from the lake. The north end is also covered with beautiful olive woods down to the water's edge, except where the caves of Catullus raise their rocky points skywards.

The little rectangular Church of San Pietro is about 36 feet wide, and the east end has a very small apse, in which the Communion table stands ; and beside it are two low circular-topped recesses, in one of which an old fresco depicts Christ bearing the cross, and in the other the Virgin and Child. Over the Communion table are frescoes of the Twelve Apostles. Above the fresco is a Roman inscription let into the wall on a plaque bearing the date A.D. 322. On the outside of the west wall are two other plaques. The square tower, with a short pinnacle, is built outside the south wall.

The church is now in a bad condition, for during the Great War (1914-1918) it was occupied by Italian cavalry, who burnt the benches and the wooden stairs to the tower for firewood. There were previously two good pictures in the church, one of San Pietro, and the *curé* was advised to have them removed before the troops took possession, but he refused to do so, and now they are ruined. They also removed the bell from the campanile and hung it up on the northern extremity of the peninsula to be rung as a warning against anti-aircraft. One day it fell down upon the rocks beneath and was broken, so the remains of it are now preserved in the castle.

In Roman times Sermione was visited by Julius Cæsar. Catullus resided there, and the Roman remains at the north are supposed to have belonged to him ; and the so-called Grotto of Catullus is part of the ruins, which perhaps date from A.D. 300.

The beautiful *Castello Scaligero* is the main point of interest, for it is one of the most imposing and best preserved in Italy.

In 765, Ansa, wife of the King of the Lombards, built a monastery and Church of San Salvatore on the remains of a temple of Mercury.

LAGO DI GARDA

Carlo Magno conquered the place in 770 and gave Sermione to San Martino di Tours of France.

In 851 it passed into the hands of Imingarda, the daughter of Lodovico II, of Lombardy, and in 861 she obtained the monastery of Ansa also.

In 1220 Federico conferred upon Sermione the right of fishing in the whole lake, and confirmed it in other privileges.

It then came into the hands of Mastino I della Scala of Verona, who knew that Sermione had been a place of refuge for many "Patarini."

The Castle is built in the form of a quadrangle on the site of a Roman tower, and at each outer corner is a tower 100 feet high, and the two first walls were built by Mastino in 1259. It has three entrances, one to the west and two to the south, each with a drawbridge, and inside were seven iron doors.

The tower in the middle of the quadrangle is much taller and was not built until the sixteenth century, and is entered from the western gate. This central tower has 146 steps up to the top of it, of which the first 73 are of stone and ascended in the courtyard, while those inside are of wood and are very steep, but the splendid views obtained from the top of it over the mighty mountains in the distance and the shores fringed with olive trees, compensate for the weariness of the ascent.

Enclosed inside by the Castle walls on the south-east is yet another piece of water, which in olden days formed the castle port, but is now reserved for fish breeding, so the entrance to the lake from it has been blocked up.

The outer walls have crenelated battlements, which were added by the Guelphs, but most of the castle was built by Mastino I della Scala.

In 1387 Sermione was occupied by the troops of the Visconte of Milan, and afterwards by Francesco Carrare of Padova, and passed with Verona in 1405 under the Venetian Republic.

Visitors are allowed to go up to the top if they are prepared to face the exertion; and on a clear day they will enjoy an extensive view over the country to Solferino and



FROM DESENZANO TO SALÒ

the tower of San Martino to the south, and over the peninsula and islands to the north.

In 1800 it was occupied by Austria, who held it until 1821, when it became part of the province of Verona.

It is now the property of the Italian Government, and all the Roman remains found in the neighbourhood are kept there.

The village was built inside the walls to the north of the castle, and is chiefly inhabited by fishermen. The parish Church of Santa Maria Maggiore is in the village, and was built in the fifteenth century, and contains a good painting of the Last Supper.

The southern portion of the peninsula used to be a health resort for the Germans, and will no doubt be so again, in spring and autumn, and for the Italians in summer, as there is a hotel with baths, so that the hot sulphur springs which rise out of the lake here can be turned to account.

The steamer from here goes due north, near the Cap and Rocca di Manerba, and between the Isola di Garda and the mainland, after which it turns westward to enter the broad bay of Salò.

On the left is a range of low, unbroken hills, and in the foreground is the cemetery and a long avenue of fine cypress trees by the shore; while at the head of the bay are a few straggling houses backed by low hills, with high mountains beyond the Sabbia valley, peak above peak, creating an intense longing to explore the lovely region around.

The town of Salò is on the right, but we will leave the description of it till later, and return to Desenzano by steamer.

FROM DESENZANO TO SALÒ

Desenzano is 34 km. from Salò, and the country between that place and Maguzzano is known as the Valtinese, which is a good wine-growing country, with the villages of Padenghe, Sojano, and Moniga, from which is a good view across the lake to Bardolino, and Garda with the Punta di San Vigilio.

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The road does not go by the lake until the village of Portese is reached, as there are two low, parallel ranges of hills running north and south, on the slopes of which the villages are scattered.

At first, on leaving Desenzano the road goes over flat, marshy ground, and then begins to rise gently, giving, on looking back, a view of the south-west corner of the lake.

The monastery of the Benedictines at *Maguzzano*, built about A.D. 920 is the first place to claim attention. It is on the hill; the original one was destroyed, but it was rebuilt about 1145, and there are some interesting fifteenth century frescoes and a beautiful silver-gilt processional cross.

Above Maguzzano is the village of *Padenghe*, with a ruined castle. A branch road near here leads to Sojana del Lago, joining the main one again at Polpenazze, whence the main road goes past Raffa.

At *Moniga*, a larger village near the headland of Manerba, there is a sixteenth century villa near the water, which belonged to the historian Pompeo Molmenti, and a ruined castle on the hill.

MANERBA

This most curious shaped headland of Manerba is 6 km. from Sermione and 11.5 km. by road from Salò, and it can be seen from many parts of the lake. On the *Rocca di Manerba* stood once a temple of Minerva, which was made into a fortress. In this Cacone, nephew of Desiderio, King of the Lombards, shut himself up in A.D. 774 and held it for two years against the Franks, when for lack of food he had to surrender. In 1221 Frederic II gave the Rocca to Biemino di Manerba; in 1271 Mastino I della Scala took possession of it and held it until 1277, when Brescia dispossessed him and ordered the fortress to be destroyed.

In 1438 it was rebuilt and occupied by the Visconti, from whom the Venetian Republic wrested it, but afterwards abandoned and destroyed it in 1787, because it had become a robbers' den. From the Rocca a steep and dangerous path leads to Sasso di Manerba, a descent of 726 feet.

ISOLA DI GARDA

There are only a few houses scattered about on lake level. The five villages which form the commune of Manerba, of which Solarolo is the chief, are on the slopes of the hills parallel with the shore, while the village of Manerba is far back on the main road. The nearest village to the Rocca is Montinelle, the next further inland is Solarolo; south of that and nearer the lake is a small place named Gardone, which must not be confused with Gardone Riviera further north—these, with Balbiana, being approached by a side road.

A little to the north of Cap Manerba is the very small island of San Biagio off the Punta Belvedere, where formerly two small villages stood; but as the inhabitants belonged to the Ghibellines, the Brescian Guelphs put some to death and ordered the others to leave, so the island remains deserted to the present time.

When the Cap di Manerba is left behind, the main road must be rejoined at Polpenazze and followed to near Pieve Vecchia, where it again forks. The main one to the left continues at a higher level past Raffa to Cunettone (3·3 km. from Salò), whence a tram line winds down to Tórmini, at the junction of the main road to Brescia and to the Valle Sabbia, and also a zigzag down to Salò.

The right branch from Polpenazze at the fork goes to San Félice di Scovola, Portese (3 km.), and Cisano (2·7 km. from Salò), rounds the corner into the bay of Salò, along a level road past the cemetery and the cypress trees, which beautify this bit of road encircling the head of the bay and arrives at the town of Salò.

ISOLA DI GARDA

This island lies not very far from the banks of the lake, between San Félice and Portese, and can be best seen from here, with its giant cypress trees, laurels, agaves, roses, rock plants, and shady inlets, for the public are no longer admitted to it.

It is only 1 km. in length and about 200 metres in the

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widest part. It was originally a Roman colony and was given by Carlomanno in 879 to the monastery of San Zeno at Verona. In 1220 it was sold to San Francésco of Assisi, the most human and lovable of all mediaeval saints, and he founded a monastery called the Romitorio del Beato Francésco da Gargnano.

San Bernardino da Siena lived as a hermit in a cave on the island, which was then called Isola dei Frati. At the end of the eighteenth century, the monastery was suppressed and the island sold to Count Lecchi of Brescia, who laid out the existing beautiful gardens and turned the monastery into a villa. It was finally sold to the Duca Ferrari of Genova, and became the property of his daughter, who married the Prince Borghese. In 1895 the old monastery was demolished and a new marble palace in Venetian style erected.

SALÒ

Having reached Salò both by land and water, we must now visit the town and the beautiful mountainous region around.

Its ancient name was Salodium, or Salomun, and it may have been founded by Queen Salonina or by Saloo of Etruscan origin.

There is a Roman bridge with round arches built of stone without mortar 1 km. from Tórmini at a place now called Sant' Anna. Many Roman remains have been found in the neighbourhood and near Ziano.

In the Middle Ages, Salò Castle was the centre of Brescian internal warfare, for in 1377 it became important when Beatrice della Scala brought the Brescian shore as a dowry to her husband, Bernabo Visconte. The walls were then built round the town, for it was the scene of many conflicts between the Visconti and the Republic of Venice, and fell into the hands of the latter in 1427. The two gates to the town then bore the Lion of St. Mark, the one in relief on the east gate, and a fresco on the west, both of which have now been defaced.



SALÒ BAY, LAGO DI GARDA

SANTA MARIA ANNUNCIATA

SANTA MARIA ANNUNCIATA

The Cathedral of Salò is one of much interest. It was built on the ruins of an old temple which existed in the early days of Christianity. The first stone of the present Gothic building was laid in October, 1453, by the Bishop Pietro da Monte of Brescia. It is a very large, lofty building, with a wide nave and two narrow side aisles, with twelve round stone pillars and Gothic arches, which are all painted. It was consecrated in 1502 by the then Bishop of Brescia. On the right hand side there are four altars, the fifth space being filled with a good-sized chapel. At the back of the altar in this is a fresco, in front of which the life-sized wooden crucifix, which is considered the finest in Italy, used to stand. It now hangs above the chancel arch.

On each column supporting the chancel arch is a framed painting, that on the right being the "Adoration of the Child" by Torbido, and above it a small balcony with carved wood balustrade. On either side of the chancel wall is a painting filling the whole space, that on the right being "Christ in Hades" by Zenon of Verona, dating from 1537. In front of the pictures are narrow balconies which are used by the choir.

On the high altar are bronze gilt candlesticks and a bronze crucifix by Pietro Bussilo, given by the Venetian Republic in 1775.

The ancona (reredos) is another very fine piece of work. It is of richly carved wood, gilded, with two rows of figures in ten niches, the Saviour being in the middle of the top row, and the Virgin below Him. The arch above the Saviour's head is missing, as the ancona was too high for the space underneath the rose window, where it was placed for a time.

The original choir stalls were destroyed during the French invasion. The Communion table is of red marble; there are no Communion rails. The ceiling of the apse has a fresco representing the Ascension of the Virgin.

The pulpit, of dark brown wood, is attached to the fourth column on the left, very high up, and is supported by a very

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handsome four-tier carved wood base, and on the same column, lower down on the side of it, is a carved stoop.

The floor is of light and dark red marble in panels.

The west doorway outside is very handsome, but does not suit the style of the building. The original one made for it was found to be too small, so that will be seen on the church of the Monastery of Barbarano, opposite the Palazzo Martinengo.

The one *in situ* has two columns joined by an architrave in which the two central figures are St. Peter and St. John the Baptist under a Norman arch, with the Virgin and an angel standing at the two corners, and busts of St. John and St. Philip in the spandrils, while God the Father surmounts the whole. This was the work of Pietro da Salò, Sansovino and Cristoforo Solari da Milano.

The square tower standing outside the north wall is very lofty; the cupola, supported by slender white marble columns, which crowns it, is open on all sides.

Outside a window in the upper part is a fine terra-cotta surround on the deep splayed arch.

The cathedral authorities took great interest in teaching music to the young inhabitants, and had funds at their disposal for educating promising pupils, and one of these was Gasparo di Salò, the inventor of the violin. He was born in a street off the Piazza Vittorio Emanuele, which now bears his name, and the house Casa Solini has a picture of him on it, while in the entrance portico of the Palazzo di Giustizia is a bust showing his long, thin, thoughtful face and Grecian nose. (1542-1600.)

The one very long street through the middle of the old town is from 10 to 12 feet wide and is paved with stone from gate to gate. In some places there are deep arcades, and the numerous shops line it on both sides, and provide the town with all the necessary commodities. There is now an upper road outside the city walls, and along this the electric tram from Brescia to Gargnano runs. The walls were built in 1377.

By the side of the lake is a promenade, terminating near the east gate in a small, pretty public garden. The landing

EXCURSIONS FROM SALÒ

stage for the steamers is on this, with the Hotel Metropole overlooking it, and the handsome Palazzo di Giustizia of 1386, with deep arcades, is near by, and in the entrance portico are marble plaques on the wall to the memory of Mazzini, Garibaldi, and Cavour.

Further westward is another small landing stage for the use of the motor boats which ply for hire, and the south end of the Victor Emanuele Piazza, and a little further on is the Albergo d'Italia, with a fine view. The Hotel Roma is on the tram line at the northern end of the Piazza.

Salò has manufactories for *Aqua di tutto Cedro*, which is a light liqueur with certain medicinal qualities, which is sold in bottles; chocolate, biscuits, candied peel, and building lime, and is altogether a busy commercial and prosperous little town. Around Salò is a profusion of scented bay, from which an oil can be extracted, but the trade in it is now ended.

On October 30, 1901, an earthquake shook the old houses around the lake.

EXCURSIONS FROM SALÒ

LAGO D'IDRO

There are many interesting excursions to be made around this part. For those who can climb a little, there are lovely walks on the lower slopes of the mountains; to those whose breathing is not affected by a high altitude the mountain-tops will appeal, with the glorious views obtained in every direction; while for those whose walking powers are very limited, there are good motoring roads.

The drive from Salò to Lago d'Idro is a most beautiful one with a great variety of scenery, as soon as the electric light works are passed. The road begins to rise, and goes by the village of Sant' Anna within sight of the Roman bridge, and then follows several zigzags, from which, on looking back, there is a good view over the Gulf of Salò, with Monte Baldo in the background and Torri del Benaco at its base.

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The next village is that of *Tórmini*, at the junction of the roads from Brescia and Desenzano, and at the foot of Monte Selva Piana (3,421 feet), the highest mountain just here.

The road turns to the right and the Val Sábbia is entered, and the sanctuary church of the Madonna della Neve, 2,948 feet up on the steep side of the M. Selva Piana, is observed. It can be approached by a very steep path from the village of Prandaglio, and the view from the top extends as far as the Ortler Mountains.

From this point the River Chiese is followed all the way to the Lago d'Idro. Near the railway station of *Roe Volciano*, on the right, is a cotton factory, and from near by a fine view of the village of *Vobarno* is obtained. It stands, with its square tower, at the point where two high mountains draw together, so that it looks like the entrance to a gorge. Both to right and left are lofty, bare crags, with a noticeable church just above the village, partly fortress, on the top of an isolated rock. Roman epitaphs are found at Vobarno, and the ruins of a castle of 1105. During the Venetian rule, iron nails and anchors were made here. There are still iron works which are no improvement to the scenery, and distance lends enchantment to it; but a very good panorama can be obtained before reaching the village. It is 29.3 km. from Salò.

We here turn to the left and the valley broadens out near *Carpignano*; the hills are low and seem far away, but soon they draw together again, forming a low plateau in front, which gives the appearance of there being only a cleft to pass through, around which the road winds.

The natural soil here is of a bright red colour, and the same tone appears in the rocks on the right hand side. From this point the mountains open out, the river widens, and many mountain snow-covered peaks appear on the skyline.

Pavone is the next village which straggles along the road, showing all its dark brown roofs, and a square church or fort with square tower on a hillock. The mountains here seem to form a ridge on the right parallel with the road, and on the top of one is a succession of five long, low buildings making a white line on the ridge.

EXCURSIONS FROM SALO

On one side of the road is *Sábbio Sopra* and on the other *Sábbio Chiese*, 16.5 km. from Salò. The latter occupies a very picturesque position, with its church against a rock and its old houses, at the entrance to a gorge. The church shows a long front to the road with a square tower and slits for windows, but when close up it looks only like a slice without any depth. It must have afforded a good outlook in times of warfare, and was no doubt strongly fortified. There are also two other little churches below the rock and some very substantial-looking houses.

Val Sábbia was connected historically with Brescia and also with the Venetian Republic, and was always a hotbed for independence, and consequently a centre for fighting, so strong fortifications were absolutely necessary.

In 1797 the inhabitants of the Val Sábbia rose against Napoleon, who had alienated them from the Venetian Republic. Owing to its proximity to Austria it was always a place of military importance. There are still the remains of old castles, for which fortresses were substituted, and in the Great War (1914-1918) these were again strengthened, especially at the top of the Idro valley.

At the end of 1590 there was much cloth-weaving in this district, but the industry has now died out.

The valley narrows again to a gorge-like entrance at the village of *Barghè*, which is the junction of two roads giving an alternative route by the Valle di Garza to Brescia. At *Barghè* there were lead mines and a foundry. The church is picturesque, and at the mouth of the gorge is the small chapel of San Gottardo, built into the rock. The road itself is cut out of the rocks, which overhang it, and then crosses by a bridge over the Chiese to the other side of the valley.

You see ahead on the right side, that you have just left, the crags coming down to the bed of the stream, and on the near bank the village of *Nozza*. This has a row of houses built closely together on the river bank, while on the left a wall of rock rises, on which is the parish church and the remains of fortifications and castle walls. The road through the village is very narrow and winding, and as we approached, it was a sea of heads.

We wondered what it could mean and what we must do, for it seemed impossible for a big car to get through that crowd hemmed in by walls on both sides. However, the women and children were flattened against the sides, while the men made themselves scarce, and foot by foot we crawled along, and at each wind in the road found a fresh procession forming up : infants in coloured dresses, marshalled by nuns headed by a banner ; another of bigger girls in black dresses and white net veils ; women in black, carrying candles ; and still another of men. When the church door came in sight a procession of priests headed by choristers issued forth, and then we understood that there was a funeral, probably of some benefactor or inhabitant of great note in the place, as every man, woman, and child appeared to be taking part in it.

On looking back after passing through the village, one noticed the zigzag, roofed-in steps leading to the Church of San Stefano, with a solid mass of old houses curving round the bend of the River Nozza, which here flows into the Chiese.

Nozza was an important place in former times and the law was promulgated from it, and the Church of San Stefano was the third Christian church built in the valley. Saw-mills abound.

From this point the valley widens out again, and the little town of *Vestone* (1,050 feet) is sighted across the end of the valley, with grassy slopes on the left and the sun glistening on the peaks of the Giudicarian Alps, covered with newly fallen snow. The town was once guarded by three forts, of which the high walls still remain, as it was the capital of the Val Sábbia. There are good arcades. The local industry is harness making.

The Bresica to Vestone tram line ends here, but another narrow line goes on to Ponte Idro, but in both cases the trams are few and far between. The Val Degnone on the left here joins the main one.

The road turns in a north-easterly direction, disclosing a fine view up the Val di Treviso, with a series of white forts on the ridges of the Valedrana, while on the left are beautiful high, jagged crags, forming a first-rate panorama. The

LAGO D'IDRO

whole valley supplies plenty of subjects for both artists and photographers.

Just before reaching the head of the lake the village of Pieve Vecchia is sighted, where there is one of the first Christian churches.

The road goes through Lemprato to reach the old village of *Idro*, formerly Eridio, which gives its name to the lake. It is not a place of much interest, consisting of a collection of dilapidated, grey, stone houses spread over a level stretch of ground, backed by sterile, unbroken mountains.

The lake here is now being dammed up, and the space filled in with stones, in order to raise the level. There is no road beyond the village of Idro, so a return must be made to Lemprato, round the south end of the lake and across the bridge over the Chiese to the point where the river forces its way in foaming rapids through a barrier of red slate, after which it is carried away by a "galleria" for purposes of irrigation.

The narrow tram line has disappeared.

The road continues in this direction until the village of *Lavenone* (4 km. from Idro; Salò 28·7 km.) is reached, under the rocky crest of the Corno Zeno. It was well known for its wrought-iron work, and remains of its former grandeur is seen in the iron railings to some of the houses and the frescoes on the walls.

LAGO D'IDRO

This is the smallest of the lakes of the greater valleys and lies higher than any of them, being 965 feet above sea level. It is about seven miles in length and little more than one mile in width. It is shut in by high mountains on both the east and west; Monte Stino (4,883 feet) the highest point on the east, can be approached by boat from Anfo. The valleys between the mountains are noted for the richness of the flora. The colour of the water is turquoise blue.

It takes about 1½ hours to motor from Gardone on Lago Garda to Idro.

A good road goes along the western bank of the lake, and

LAGO DI GARDA

mighty crags are seen ahead before the village of *Anfo* is reached (35·4 km.). The road rises slightly to the *Rocca d'Anfo*, a precipitous rock coming down to the road. The fort is built from the rock over the road, with its foundations in the lake. The archway at each end has a drawbridge, which can be pulled up over the opening and completely encloses the space between. On looking up between these two arches you see the natural rock bristling with points and intersected with artificial caverns, while the space below is completely honeycombed with walled-in roads for troops and guns, look-out places, steps in all directions, and also a large low building without window frames but with turrets.

It was first built in 1486 by the Venetians, destroyed and rebuilt in 1515 by the Conte di Lodrone, again destroyed in 1796 by the French first, and then the Austrians, and latterly reinforced by very modern additions extending to Lavenone. This point was formerly the Austrians' frontier outpost. At the village of Anfo public conveyances stop and return the way they came, but this is not obligatory on private cars.

The road continues along the side of the lake and the village of *Sant' Antonio* (39·7 km.) is reached, a small place of no special importance. Near here is the Osario Garibaldino di Monte Suello, a collection of human bones, being those of the men who fell in the Garibaldi warfare of 1866, and it is the place where the great leader was wounded.

A little further on is the *Pontecáffaro*, which was the modern Austrian frontier until 1918, and from here a steep road leads up the River Cáffaro on the left, and rises about 1,000 feet to *Bagolino* (2,000 feet). This place is on the brow of a steep declivity, and is a summer resort in a magnificent position 8·7 km. from San Antonia, whence a motor bus runs in summer in about 40 minutes. Here will be found the Albergo Ciapana, where a short stay may well be made to enjoy the mountainous neighbourhood.

Its history dates back to ancient times, for in 45 B.C. Brutus called the descendants of the Umbrians and Etruscans who found refuge in these mountains the bellicose men, as they so stoutly resisted the Roman invasion. Roman inscriptions have been found here with "Pagus Libius" on them.

EXCURSIONS FROM SALO

The parish church dates back to A.D. 600, and has pictures by Titian, Moretto, Tintoretto, and Celeste, as well as many frescoes and a picture painted on wood. At San Rocca are preserved the remains of a pagan temple.

The Val del Cáffaro cannot be surpassed for varied and picturesque scenery, for it is surrounded by mountains up to 8,000 or 9,000 feet high and a number of waterfalls about 7 to 8 km. beyond Bagolino.

A return can be made to the main road, which goes northwards to *Ladrone*, noted in history for the family of the same name. This is the best point for visiting the village of Bondone, which stands on the top of a steep rock 1,000 feet high. Huge blocks of granite stand out above the place, and it is altogether most picturesque at the head of the lake on the eastern side.

From Ladrone the road goes past *Darzo*, with an old church and quaint campanile. The River Chiese is then crossed, and the Val d'Ampola entered, and 1 km. further on is the village of *Storo*. It is situated under an overhanging rock called the Rocca Pagana, and has picturesque old houses with wooden balconies. It was one of the first places occupied by the Italian troops in 1915.

Storo was also Garibaldi's head-quarters in 1866. In olden days it was a small Republic in the midst of the feudal territories of the Counts of Ladrone. The church stands on an eminence and has an organ front of gilded wood.

The Val d'Ampola has an imposing contour, with grand crags. It is renowned for Garibaldi's advance in 1867.

The road crosses a vertical wall of rock, and in part of it, in 1919, it was replaced by a wooden bridge, so that it could be quickly destroyed. After two bends there is a narrow gorge, both sides being very high and almost perpendicular, with only room for the road and the stream. The road is cut out of the rock, and continues to rise by the side of the noisy torrent of Palvico, and then the traveller finds himself in the midst of wire entanglements, huts, and caverns, with military mule-paths leading off the main road.

On the left is a beautiful waterfall, and on the right is a path to the Pass of Tremalzo, followed by another to the

LAGO DI GARDA

Valle di Lorina, with the pass 4,777 feet high leading to Tremósine.

Suddenly the crags cease and the road circles round the old *Fortress of Ampola*, built by the Austrians in 1860, and taken by Garibaldi in 1866 and then destroyed.

After passing the Osteria della Tolla the road opens out into a wide, green, wooded place, in which is the little lake of Ampola, where “gamberi,” or crayfish, abound. The lake is only 1,233 feet long and 308 feet wide and about 6½ feet deep. During the late war a military road was made over the Passo di Tremalzo, and if the money can be found it will be kept in order for the use of tourists.

This is the watershed between the Palvico torrent flowing south-west and the torrent Massangla, which becomes the Ponale on its exit from the Lago Ledro at the other end.

The whole distance from Salò to Riva is 81 km., and about 24 km. from Ampola to the latter ; so if only a day's excursion is contemplated it is better to return to Lodrone and thence to Bagolino or Salò.

DISTANCES

SALÒ TO—		SALÒ TO—	
Km.		Km.	
3.5	Tórmini to Brescia	49.3	Storo (Alb. Agnello and Centrale)
	29.3		road to Tremósini
9.1	Vobarno	58.3	Âmpola (Osteria della Tolla)
19.3	Bargè	56.3	Tiarno di Sopra
22.6	Nozza		Bezzecca
24.2	Vestone	61.7	Pieve di Ledro
29.7	Lavenone	65.6	Molina
38.2	Pieve Vecchia	67	Biacesa
35.4	Anfo (Alb. Stella and Corona)	71.7	Ponale Strada about 3 km. long
39.7	San Antonio, to Bagolino 3.7	74.7	Galleria 1 km. from Riva
43.5	Cáffaro		
	Lodrone		
46.3	Darzo	81	RIVA
48.1	La Casa Rossa		

SALÒ TO GARDONE

SALÒ TO GARDONE

It is only 3 km. from the east gate of the town, and the tram from Brescia stops at this point to take up passengers. From here the Riviera Bresciana begins and extends for 16 km. to Gargnano. On the right of the gate is the end of the Promenade and adjoining it is a beautiful private garden enclosed by iron railings, which goes down to the water's edge.

From here the houses are continuous on the lake side, while on the other there is a footpath bordered with fine trees, which must give a very welcome bit of shade in summer along this wide, dusty bit of highway with motors constantly passing over it.

At the end of the footpath there is a plaque on the high wall to the memory of those from this part who fell in the Great War ("Viale della Remembranza"). Above this is an olive wood laid out with winding paths and planted with other young trees as a public garden, with a lovely view across the lake to the opposite shore.

Close to this, on the other side of the road, is a chocolate factory, in which many of the girls of Salò are employed, and can be seen pouring out at noon. The produce can be bought there.

The road narrows and the footpath disappears, which is most inconvenient for pedestrians, as the tram line runs close to the lake side of the road, and leaves very little room, especially when it is blocked by a pair of oxen, who are the usual draught beasts of burden in these parts, and perhaps a motor car and a cyclist come whizzing past within a few inches of your person.

After a high wall is passed another olive wood is well seen, as it is only shut off from the public by barbed wire, instead of a high wall, which is so irritating, and this merges into the gardens of the extremely plain, low, long building, which is the *Palazzo Martinengo*.

This was built in 1577 by the Marchese Sforza Pallavicino, the Venetian general. In 1650 it was sold to Count Camillo Martinengo Cesaresco of Brescia, a ferocious *masnadiero*,

LAGO DI GARDA

or bluebeard, who was the terror of the neighbourhood and of the Venetian Government. Its beautiful garden lies on both sides of the high road and is connected by a light bridge over it; and mingled with the olive trees on the upper slopes are many very fine cypress trees, making a dark mass on the mountain slopes. This place is called *Barbarano*, and the stream of the same name springs from the neighbourhood of Monte San Bartolomeo above Salò from the Monte Spino.

Opposite the palace a short driving road leads to the door of the *Capuchin Monastery* of Barbarano, with a small, interesting chapel built in 1580. The Gothic portal is the one designed for the cathedral of Salò. On the high altar is a good Venetian picture of Christ on the Cross by an unknown painter. A footpath from here leads through the olive woods to the villages of Morgnaga and others, on the slopes of Monte Lavino.

Roman remains have been found at Barbarano.

Beyond this are two or three public cobbled lanes leading up to Gardone di Sopra, the little Chapel of San Michele (1,348 feet), with a zigzag path to it. It possesses an interesting crucifix, and there is an extensive view from it. Another footpath leads down to Fasano.

The main road now passes a large villa, well set back from the dusty road, with what must once have been a most beautiful garden, with palm trees and other tropical foliage, but now quite neglected.

Nearly opposite this is a cart-track leading down to the lake, where there is a tiny bay, from which a good view of Gardone Riviera may be obtained, with the small harbour for motor and rowing boats in the foreground.

The side view of the Hotel Savoie comes in sight and the next place of interest is reached.

GARDONE RIVIERA

This name includes the eight little villages of Gardone di Sopra, Gardone di Sotto, Montecucco, Morgnaga, Tresnico, Sopiane, Fasano di Sopra, and Fasano di Sotto.

GARDONE DI SOPRA

Gardone di Sotto has been renowned as a health resort since 1883, on account of its warm climate with no great fall of temperature at night, and is consequently much frequented by Germans. The mountains protect it on the north and west, while Monte Baldo acts as a screen on the east, and it receives a maximum of sunshine. In winter it is frequented by consumptives and those suffering from nervous disorders. All these places are long and narrow, as the mountains do not allow of much width. Camelias and magnolias flower, while palms grow without protection. Between Gardone and the next village there is an avenue of laurels.

The promenade is very short, and only extends from the front of the Hotel Savoie to the landing stage as the garden of the Grand Hotel, then monopolizes the lake shore. The main road, with tram line, is higher up, and there is another short road between these two, where the few household shops will be found.

At the landing stage is a bank and a bookshop, where guides and maps can be procured and seats booked in the public motors, which make excursions into the surrounding country (del littorale Bresciano).

In the olive woods there are various walks which are not too strenuous, while for those who can climb up some 3,000 to 4,000 feet here are endless excursions, with glorious views.

The Hotel Roma is a comfortable one on the upper road, but has unfortunately not much of a view; but other hotels and *pensions* abound, as well as villas in the olive woods. There is a German Protestant church.

From Gardone to Brescia is 32 km. ; Gardone to Toscolano 6 km. ; and Gardone to Tignali 27 km. uphill.

GARDONE DI SOPRA

While the visitors congregate on the lake side, the natives live up above on the southern slope of the mountain, and *Gardone di Sopra* is the chief place of the commune of the Gardone Riviera, and the municipio, schools, and parish

church are all situated here. Consequently it can be approached from many points—Barbarano, Gardone, Fasano, and Maderno.

The road that passes the Gardone church can be ascended, and a cobbled lane followed, until an iron gate is seen disclosing an olive grove, with cypress trees ; and at this gate the path turns to the left up a steep path to the right, which leads to the little Piazza Garibaldi. This walk only takes from 15 to 20 minutes.

There is nothing of note in the village itself, which consists of one street from east to west ; but passing through an archway under a house on the right, the first thing noticed is a memorial to those who fell in the Great War, and then a flight of steps leads to the *parish church*.

This is situated on a precipitous rock, where formerly stood a castle belonging to the Ugoni family, with a watch tower or *garda*, and from this came the name of Gardone. The old tower of 1215 still stands, together with part of the chapel, the domed ceiling of which is covered with frescoes, but the lower part of the arch is roughly built up, leaving the frescoes to be spoilt by the weather.

Close to it, but not adjoining, is the present parish church of the eighteenth century, and from outside the south wall of the present chancel, part of an old wall is seen, which probably formed the end of the original church, so that the chancel only is built upon the foundations of the original church. The nave is the same height as the chancel, but twice the width, and has three altars of coloured marbles.

In the chancel is the organ on one side and a large picture on the other, with a balcony in front of both, the same as in the cathedral at Salò.

Outside the chancel is a narrow terrace provided with seats, from which a fine view is obtained over the lake to Manerba and northwards to Maderno, while at the foot of the rock is Gardone di Sopra and Barbarano, and on the opposite shore is Monte Baldo.

A driving road from here leads down to Fasano, and a cobbled path nearer the church gives a good view of the

FASANO

rock on which it stands, showing what a commanding position it occupies.

A pleasant footpath may be followed westward through the olive woods to the cemetery, which is nearly in a straight line above the Grand Hotel, and this continues through the village of *Morgnaga* and the interesting old church with its wooden loggia to the south. The pulpit is high up on the wall in the middle of the church, and is entered from outside by a little balcony with a handrail round two sides of it, which is under this loggia, but the steps up to it are removed when not in use, presumably because they would afford too good a play ground for the children of the parish.

The path goes on for a short way, and then a cobbled lane on the left can be followed and the main road rejoined near the Barbarano monastery and ravine.

FASANO

As Gardone became popular, houses sprang up on the outskirts, and Fasano is the eastern end, with a separate landing stage for the steamers. The road from Gardone has a footpath raised high above the tram line, which is a great advantage, as it is out of the dust and danger, so the views of the beautiful gardens in which the villas stand can be enjoyed. It is shaded by a very high laurel hedge.

The Villa Zanardelli is on this road, but the once lovely garden has been sadly neglected, and the works of art and the library taken to Brescia, where Giuseppe Zanardelli was born, and became Minister and President of the Chamber.

Near by, in a fine garden on the bank of the lake, is the Casino, which was shut up during the war, but opened again this spring for music and dancing.

Adjoining the landing stage, is the Hotel Bella Riva in a fine position, with an entirely English clientèle. It is in a sunny position, but has a large garden with plenty of shade when required.

The church at Fasano is above the main road, from which the very large loggia on the eastern wall is first noticed.

LAGO DI GARDA

The priest here must be a popular man, for on Sunday afternoon the village seemed to be dead until the church doors opened, and every man, woman, and child streamed out.

From here a path goes up the slope to Fasano di Sopra which can also be reached by a path opposite the Casino to Cagnaco, and then by the upper laurel footpath.

MADERNO

Maderno is $2\frac{1}{2}$ km. to the north of Fasano, and the trams run on the inland side of the road, and for some distance there are high garden walls. From an olive wood on the right a view is obtained over the little bay, which is formed by the long promontory of Maderno extending far into the lake.

It lies at the base of Monte Pizzocolo, and used to be the chief town of the Brescian Riviera. On the Rocca di Maderno was a fortress in the ninth century, which was destroyed by the French in 1797. The monks of the monastery of *Leno*, who had restored the castle, had an almost sovereign jurisdiction over the whole of the Golfo di Salò, and their duty was to repel invaders. The existing ugly parish church was built in 1800 on the site of the castle, which existed in the Middle Ages, and the campanile behind it belongs to the castle.

On the piazza near the parish Church of Sant' Erculiano is a very tall Venetian column with the lion of San Marco on the top, erected to the memory of Zanardelli.

The Church of Sant' Andrea, opposite the column on the Piazza Vittorio Emanuele, stands on the site of a temple of Apollo, and there are the remains of part of the Roman walls. The existing building was put up in the twelfth century in Lombard style, and the south wall is faced with white grey, and red Veronese stone. The portal over the wooden door is of many coloured marbles with rounded arches. The building was ruined by the restorations of 1580, when the crypt was closed. There were various



MADERNO

TOSCOLANO

paintings, one of which was on wood in Grecian style. The tram stop is opposite.

The Palazzo Gonzaga of 1600, belonging to the Duke of Mantua, is also interesting.

It is at Maderno that the first of the big "campi" are seen, which are such a blot upon the landscape, although no doubt very necessary for the protection of the lemon and citron trees.

From the steamer landing stage is a good view of Maderno, with the low range of hills immediately behind it, on which, to the south, the Church of Gardone di Sopra, with the old tower, is a prominent object.

A promenade has been made right round the peninsula, on which Maderno faces south, and the port of Toscolano is in the north-west corner.

The main road, with tram line, cuts across the head of this peninsula, and the village of Toscolano lies above it.

TOSCOLANO

The port, with its high factory chimneys, has no interest for tourists. Behind Toscolano there is a cleft in the hills, and through this flows the torrent of the same name. The stony bed of this has two bridges over it, one carrying the main road with tram line. Looking westward from here the low Monte Maderno occupies the foreground, and behind that, to the south, is Monte Lavino (just over 3,000 feet) while in the background towers the grand Monte Pizzocolo (5,273 feet).

To the north of this the *Valle della Camerte* winds round the base of Monte Castello (nearly 2,900 feet): a stern, rugged, and stony valley, up which it is possible to drive through many tunnels as far as the electric light works.

On the low range of hills between Monte Castello and the lake lie the villages of Pulciano, Gaino, Cabbiana, Fornico, Zuino, and nearer the lake Messaga and Cecina, and above Bogliaco are Roina and Villavetro, the last famed for its wine.

LAGO DI GARDA

From Toscolano a good driving road leads up to Gaino Church on the crest on the hill, which looks so picturesque from below surrounded by cypress trees. Many steps lead up to the church door. From here an extensive view may be obtained to the south over the promontory of Maderno and far away to the hills behind Desenzano and the tower of San Martino.

Toscolano is probably of Etruscan origin, and was in the time of the Romans called Tusculanum, and the lake itself Benaco. The *Beata Vergine di Benaco* dates from Roman times and must have been a temple of Jupiter. The chapel once contained a capital representing Jupiter upheld by four columns of serpentine stone, and it was held in great veneration. In 1580 Carlo Borromeo had it destroyed. This chapel was behind the other church and nearer the lake. Many Roman remains have been found.

The villa of the Nonii-Arii family fell into the hands of the barbarians, and was also destroyed, but the remains of it fell into the lake ; and this fact probably gave rise to the legend that the flourishing town of Benaco had stood upon this spot and had been destroyed either by an earthquake or tidal wave.

The parish Church of San Pietro dates from the sixteenth century, and is one of the most splendid monuments of the Gardone Riviera.

The west elevation is incomplete, but has three rather fine marble doorways. The centre one has curious columns, which were taken from the ruins of the Roman villa of the Nonii-Arii ; and as they were in a very bad state of preservation they had white marble "bardiglio" (swathings) carved and put on the columns in the weakest parts to give them support. There is a statue of San Pietro and two angels over the centre doorway.

The church has a very lofty nave and two aisles of the same height, supported on plain, round, greyish-white stone with gilded capitals in Doric style.

The floor is of red and white Verona marble in rhomboidal style. There are five rounded Roman arches on each side, and seven altars, two of which are in the side chapels.

TOSCOLANO

The paintings in the three-cornered apse are by Celeste, who was banished from the Venetian Republic in 1668 and settled on the lake, and spent his time in decorating the churches of the Gardone Riviera. The three in the apse depict the martyrdom of San Pietro, and the one over the west door that of the Slaughter of the Innocents; most of the pictures over the side altars are by him also. The frescoes in the nave, between the pillars over the arches, are by his pupils.

Round the apse are dark-brown, carved wooden stalls, with a high-backed, finely carved chair in the chancel for the bishop. The Communion rails are of plain white marble.

On a pedestal, on one side of the red marble chancel, there is a life-size figure of Jesus Christ bearing the cross, and another of the Virgin Mary on the other side.

A tablet to the memory of the printer Paganino di Paganini has been erected on the wall.

On the base of the church tower Roman inscriptions, found in various places, have been built into the wall. In the west wall some Roman tombstones will be found.

Toscolano has paper mills, oil refineries, and iron works.

Paper making was started in this neighbourhood in 1386, when the use of certain waters was granted to Bernardino di Monsalice for turning his mills.

At Salò, Paganino di Paganini, who published the "*Divina Commedia*," first had his printing press, renowned for its beauty and clearness; and later, in 1525, it was removed to Toscolano. One of the rare early volumes of about 1476 is in the library at Verona.

The Jews also started a printing press at Riva, and produced Jewish codes and sacred writings.

The country between Madero and Garganno is renowned for its lemon gardens, called "*campi*," as many as 3,000 lemons being grown on a single tree. They grow on terraces like the olive trees, above the more fertile land along the shore of the lake, and the glaring whiteness of the stone pillars spoils the artistic effect of the countryside. The lemon and citron trees are trained flat against the terrace walls,

LAGO DI GARDA .

which afford support for the fruit, give free access to the sun's rays, reflect the heat, and enable a covering to be put over them at night or in cold weather.

Toscolano has many fine walks around it, with sanctuaries and stately cypress trees. The torrent divides into two parts after passing under the main road, on the one side forming a narrow green canal, and on the other a stony bed.

BOGLIACO

The next place along the shore is Bogliaco, 5 km. from Toscolano, and it is in the commune of Gargnano, from which it is only 2 km. distant.

On the way to it the road passes under two arches, which belong to the *Palazzo di Bettoni*.

The house is on the lake side of the road, and is one of the biggest in this part. It only dates from the last quarter of the eighteenth century, and was built by Count Delay Bettoni from the plans of the architect Cristofoli. Inside it is much painted, and the middle room is worthy of notice, as well as the little picture gallery with paintings by Vernet, Bertolini, a portrait by Paul Veronese, and one of St. John the Baptist, and a painting of the school of Guido Reni.

The dining-room has good paintings by Celesti, who lived for some time on the lake. In the various rooms are works of art in glass, porcelain, copper, carved wood, and tapestry.

The palace has a beautiful garden, with overhead communication, on the western side of the main road, but it has been of late much neglected and the terraces are falling to pieces.

The narrow streets of Bogliaco look old, and there is a primitive piazza at the steamer landing stage. The Grand Hotel adjoins and blocks the lake to the public on the south, as the hotel garden goes down to the water's edge. Here the English congregate, for on the lower slopes on the hill before Bogliaco is reached a good golf course has been made, and belongs partly to the Savoie Hotel at Gardone.

Bogliaco faces east, so it loses the sun early in the day ;

GARGNANO

but still the orange and lemon "campi" flourish, and it is coming to the fore as a winter resort for English people.

The tram stops at the turning leading up to the golf links, and from here onwards the road is not so much enclosed by high walls as before, and a view of the surrounding country is obtained. There are many villages on the lower slopes.

GARGNANO

Gargnano is backed by steep hills, which slope right down to the main road. The "campi" here are so numerous on the sides of the hills that the place looks unsightly, in spite of the fine peaks in the distance. The buildings stretch from Bogliaco to Gargnano, and the latter is a large place, and the terminus of the electric tram line from Brescia, a distance of 45 km.

By means of the tram it is quite easy to reach any given place on the Brescian Riviera, but a very early start must be made if a return journey is contemplated. The trams only run at intervals of two or three hours, and the time between the first return may be too short to see anything of the place visited, or too long to find occupation or shelter, or too late for the return in short winter days. Tickets for the journey should be procured at one of the offices, usually a tobacconist's, or double fare is exacted. Gargnano is 13 km. from Gardone.

It was bombarded by the Austrians in 1866, when battles were also fought in the Val di Ledro.

Gargnano is the chief centre for the citron growing, and the erections for protecting them consist mainly of walls about 30 feet high at the back, with tall white pillars supporting the front, which has sliding glass doors, to be shut in frosty weather, so that the trees are then entirely enclosed. Another form has a wall behind, while wooden rafters form the roof, with uprights to support them in front, and over this canvas can be thrown when necessary.

The lemon trees here grow much higher than those on the French Riviera, which have no covers.

LAGO DI GARDA

The landing stage and piazza are at the northern end, and the parish Church of San Martino is still a little further on. It is of singular construction, for every part is of oval form, the nave without aisles, the pure white ceiling also with a large oval opening in the middle of it for ventilation. Round the walls of the oval are three semicircular arches, with altars in four of them ; and the most remarkable feature is the absence of tawdriness and lack of colour. The south elevation quite spoils the appearance of it. The tall campanile is detached and is much older than the church, but the upper part of the tower was rebuilt in 1836. It was in the Renaissance style, with a small cupola.

A walk through the old street of the little town, which probably dates from the twelfth century, leads to another church, which was first built by the Franciscans in 1289 ; the original fell down, was rebuilt in 1600, and remains of the first church were included in the walls of this one. It has a very small apse with an altar-piece by Giovanni Grossi. But the beauty is in the cloisters, which are on the south side of the church, and entered by an iron grille over the door on the main road. The capitals of the low columns which support the arches are carved and ornamented with oranges and lemons, as is also the hard, grey stone architrave of the doorway from the cloister into the church. According to the legend it was the Franciscans who first started the culture of these fruits in this part.

The iron grill is kept locked, but admission can be obtained to the cloisters on application at the building adjoining it, which is now in the hands of the " Società Lago di Garda " (the Agricultural Society). This building is a depository for the bay leaves, which are packed in boxes and sacks and sent away to chemical works to be turned to use for medicinal purposes. The scent from them is overpowering.

Villas belonging to families living in Milan and Verona are numerous on the slopes, and the amount of white marble used is a feature of the place, and even humble abodes are embellished with pillars and porches of it. Many beautiful varieties of marble are found on the Lake of Garda.

The Monte di Gargnano is famous for very rare plants



FRANCISCAN CLOISTERS, GARGNANO

TIGNALE

on its southern slopes, and the *aloe perfoliata* grows wild.

From Gargnano a steep mountain-path leads to the Col di San Gaudenzio, in the direction of Muslone. This is a poor village, but rich in lovely views. There is an oak wood near by. The Church of the Madonna di Moncastello, perched on a rock, affords a view over the commune of Tignale, surrounded by splendid mountain-tops with lower slopes under cultivation.

The road round the lake ends at Gargnano, for the mountains come down into it and bar further progress on the level.

TIGNALE

The old zigzag footpath has now been transformed into a good driving road up into the heart of the mountains, but requires the greatest caution on the part of the chauffeur.

The narrow road begins to ascend under two mighty crags, and a faint zigzag line is seen in the distance far ahead on the corner overhanging the lake, but it is difficult to believe that it is possible for any car to ascend and safely negotiate the curves.

Nevertheless, the car pursues its way, winding round the lower curves of the mountain until it reaches the zigzags, the corners of which are so narrow that it has to back two or three times to get round them.

The road has no protection whatever ; in some places there is a $2\frac{1}{2}$ foot wall, in others a barbed wire, and still again a bit of broken-down wooden fence, as though someone had experienced a narrow escape from a sheer drop of 1,000 to 1,500 feet into the lake below ; but the mind is so occupied with the entrancing views, first in one direction and then in the other, that there is no room for thoughts of anything else.

In some places the rocks overhang, as they have been blasted to provide the necessary space for the road, and also for two vehicles to pass one another occasionally.

When these zigzags have been safely negotiated, there is a

LAGO DI GARDA

most wonderful view on looking back to the south, showing the whole of the road just traversed with the many curves and zigzags and all the lake in that direction.

A corner is turned and the beautiful scene is lost to sight, and after a long, fairly level stretch, the first glimpse is obtained of Monte Castello at close quarters. The road goes through the headland by means of a tunnel, in which are two openings to the lake, giving fleeting glimpses of Monte Baldo.

This is followed by an olive wood and little gorge, through which a steep footpath winds down to the tiny fort of Tignale, with a house or two and a grove of orange and lemon trees.

The road turns inland to round the head of this deep gorge, with noteworthy stratification of the rocks going in opposite directions, followed by grassy terraces with olive trees on them.

A second deep curve inland follows, and the road goes round a dip in the mountains, the olive trees are replaced by firs, and the village of *Gardola* is seen on the slopes above and the road zigzags up to it, the most important place in the commune of Tignale.

At this point the car stops, and the remaining short length past the hotel can be followed on foot, to the *Santuário della Madonna di Monte Castello* on the crest of the mountain.

This Monte Castello must not be confused with the one of the same name further south, the near neighbour of Pizzocolo.

SANTUÁRIO DELLA MADONNA DI MONTE CASTELLO

From the village of Gardola (2,785 feet) a footpath leads up, with three zigzags, to the sanctuary, with the Stations of the Cross at intervals, until an outer wall with gateway is reached. Inside this is a grassy plateau, from which a most wonderful view southwards over the lake may be obtained. The rocks come sheer down into the sea, and headland after headland, with the rocky summit of the other

SANTUARIO DELLA MADONNA DI M. CASTELLO

Monte Castello, show up, while the Isola di Garda is silhouetted in the water ; behind that is the curious head-land of Manerba and the Punta di San Vigilio on either side, and Sermione and the tower of San Martino are visible in the far distance. On the east are the glorious snowy peaks of Monte Baldo, about 7,000 feet high, and the various small villages nestling in the indentations of the mighty range.

A second archway in a broad low building, its inner wall of defence, leads on to another grassy plateau, from which steps go up on both sides to the chapel. The campanile is built outside, but adjoining the east wall and equidistant from either end.

The sanctuary is built on a rock with a precipice down to the lake (2,303 feet), and was the original site of the castle of the Scaligeri, by Mastino II della Scala, who wanted to make a refuge of it in case of need for himself and his family. Tradition says that he had a flight of steps, secretly hewn out of the face of the rock, from the castle to the lake in case flight were necessary.

Immediately behind the Santuario is a little dip in the ground, which afterwards rises into three craggy points, forming the Monte Castello. In the distance successive rows of mountain peaks can be seen, with the zigzagging military roads for which the Italians were famed during the Great War.

This should be an interesting centre for walking and mountaineering, as there is a perfect network of tracks and paths connecting the various valleys and peaks.

To the north of the Santuario a quite different view is presented. In the valley below, the village of Prabione is seen, with the road to Tremósine running through it in the foreground, after which it turns into a valley and is temporarily lost to sight ; but it soon reappears and forms several zigzags up the mountain, on which the village of Sermerio is situated.

This village forms part of the commune of Tremosine, although the main plateau cannot be seen from this point. The plateau itself can be reached on foot, and during the

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war a military driving road was made to it ; but, as it has not been kept in repair since the Armistice, it cannot now be used by vehicles. There is an idea of opening it up for tourists, which would be a great advantage.

But at the present day the return to the Riviera must be by the same road as the ascent, which is really no drawback, for the scenery is so different looking in the reverse direction.

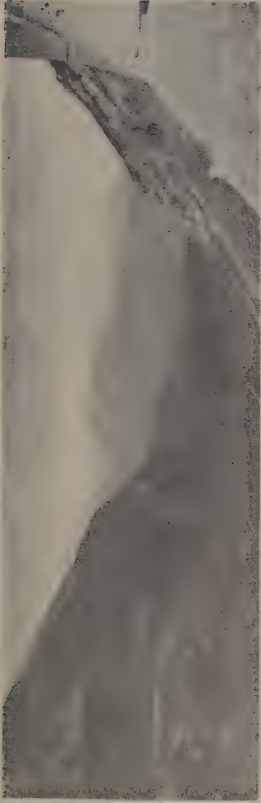
Between the zigzags of the main road below the Hotel Tignale, on the south slope of the mountain facing down the lake, is the cemetery, a most conspicuous object, and the mausoleums are built round the three outer sides and form a solid wall, and below this again the corner of the hairpin road leading to the village can be seen.

To the west, on the far side of the ravine facing the village of Gárdola, the tops of the headlands can be seen from a different aspect, covered with freshly fallen snow in March, and rounded peak after peak is visible, and far below the winding road which has been traversed in coming up.

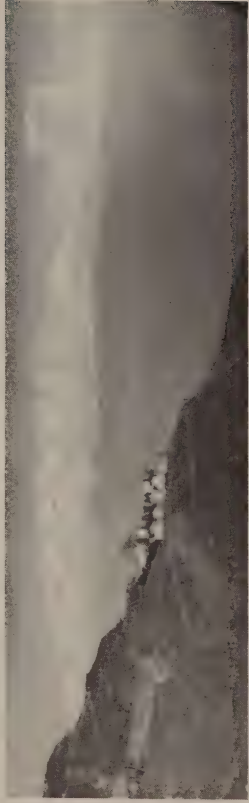
On going down, the big village of *Pióvere* (2,396 feet) is in full view, with a waterfall coursing straight down, while the road has been scooped out, leaving overhanging crags above and an overhanging precipice below, with a $2\frac{1}{2}$ foot wall as a protection for pedestrians, and none for a motor car.

From *Pióvere* there is a mule-path leading down to the little *Port of Tignale* on the banks of the lake. It is bounded by rocks on one side, water on the other, and the two gorges of Valle di *Pióvere* on the south, and the Valle di Oldesio on the north, with tiny waterfalls. This district is called "Prato della Fame" (hunger), for tradition says that some people were shipwrecked at the port and could not get away either by sea or land, and were finally rescued by some fishermen in a half-starved condition. There are only two houses and some citron "campi" there.

There is a steep mule-track to the villages of Tignale above, and an overhead wire ("teleforo") for slinging provisions from the steamer to the villages above.



FROM TIGNALE, NORTHWARDS



MONTE BALDO FROM TIGNALE

PORTO TIGNALE

GARGNANO TO RIVA

After the return to Gargnano the steamer must be used to reach Riva at the north end of the lake, as the Brescian Riviera has come to an end, for the mountain spurs now come right down into the lake, resembling in character the Norwegian fjords.

On leaving Gargnano the zigzags leading up to Tignale are clearly seen ; the mountains are sheer down to the lake, broken only by a continuous scar on the mountain, on which the road is built on the side of the precipice.

After this the village of Pióvere is seen in the distance, almost facing north, in a very exposed position, and from there the road can be followed past the village of Tignale. Under these villages are two deep clefts in the ridge with the little hamlet in the more northerly one marked by a group of cypress trees.

The Punta di Forbesicle is rounded, and Campione lies in the curve.

PORTO TIGNALE

A very steep path leads up from here to the road to Tremósine, but it is hidden and cannot be followed from below. Next along the lake comes the Punta di Forbesicole, with one solitary house and a garden, and from here a wire railway was in use during the Great War for hoisting up goods from the lake to the last turn of the road from Gargnano before the village of Gardola is reached. When this part is viewed from the steamer, and the tradition of the secret flight of steps from here to the castle is recalled, it seems as though it would have required a superhuman workman to cut them out, who must have been assisted in his work by invisible hands, and possessing a body in which nerves formed no part of its structure.

From here the sanctuary chapel is only a white speck against its dark neighbour with the jagged teeth, and its eastern wall is in the same line as the precipice, with no path around it on that side.

LAGO DI GARDA

On looking northwards from this point to the south of Campione, the Punta di Corlor, the spur of Cima Larici and of Brione stand out the one behind the other, like the wings of a stage.

CAMPIONE

Campione consists of a narrow strip of level ground about 1,200 yards long and a quarter of that wide, and lies at the foot of the colossal *Klippen* between the communes of Tignale and Tremósine. Mighty precipices of rock here rise sheer out of the lake, sometimes to a height of 1,000 feet. They are never monotonous, thanks to the wonderful colouring sometimes assumed by them, and to atmospheric effects, although they are in themselves arid and bare. On the summit of one of them between Tremósine and Campione is the ancient church of Pieve, of the fourth century.

The torrent at Campione separates the territories of Campione from Tremósine, and in 1797, by the treaty of Campoformio, it was also made the boundary between the Cisalpine Republic and Austria. On the right of the torrent there is a large cotton spinnery worked by electricity.

There is a large villa of the "seicento" here and some curious caves, and it was in one of these that Sant' Ercolano died, and it is still called *Camera della Regina*. This saint was born in Germany and in 552 was made Bishop of Brescia. When he died in this walled-in cave at Campione the event was announced miraculously by the simultaneous ringing of all the bells in the district. Brescia, Verona, and Trento quarrelled as to who should possess his remains, so by common consent they were put in a boat and left to drift on the lake; the boat landed at Maderno, and they lie in the big parish church there.

In 1807 a gale destroyed, amongst other things, the Church of Sant' Ercolano at Campione, but another has been erected on the same site.

From Campione there is a very steep path called "Sentiero del Salto"—the Path of the Leap.

Climbers can make an excursion from here to the San-

TREMÓSINE

tuário della Madonna di Monte Castello in about two hours, and the descent may be made by Gardola to Gargnano

TREMÓSINE

The commune of Tremósine consists of seventeen villages on a plateau about 1,333 feet above the lake. The most important of these is Pieve di Tremósine, which is perched on the edge of a rocky precipice, at the foot of which is a wire railway by which goods can be drawn up for the use of the inhabitants above.

Formerly access to this place must have been very difficult, but at the present day there is a driving road from Campione, where the steamers stop, and there is a motor bus service in connexion with them.

The road runs parallel to the lake at first, and then passes through a tunnel and turns away from it, and by means of several zigzags begins to climb and disappears from sight in a deep gorge, down which the torrent Brasa flows.

Tremósine is a place of great antiquity, and many inscriptions and remains have been discovered, showing that before the conquest by the Romans this part was inhabited by Etruscans.

Tradition says that it was converted to Christianity by San Vigilio.

In the thirteenth century it was taken away from the Trentino and allotted to Brescia, but after the peace of Campoformio it was once more divided from Brescia and allotted to Austria, and subsequently shared the same fate as other villages on the west shore of the lake.

The parish church contains some fine inlaid work, probably by Donato Benedetta.

Tremósine is noted for its magnificent rocks and cliffs, which can be well seen from the steamer. The country at the back has vineyards, which produce a good, strong wine.

After passing the Punta di Corlor, where the torrent Anzelo enters the lake, the shore is called the Riva di Nanzel, which is supposed to be the best part for carp fishing. When

LAGO DI GARDA

Giuseppi II stayed on the lake in 1765 he visited this place on purpose to enjoy it.

A little further on the rocks recede, and an olive grove hides the small Churches of San Lugi and San Giovanni; but high up the Passo di Vil can be seen, which leads northward to Pregasina, and thence down to the Ponale Cascade. There is a good albergo there now.

LIMONE

Limone was the last village in the Brescian Province. Its appearance is entirely spoilt by the white lemon "campi." If only the colour of the pergolas were changed to green or even red they would not be such a blot upon the landscape. They are joined up by paths along the lake for the length of two kilometres northwards as far as the Punta di Reamolo, where there is a small house formerly occupied by the customs house officer, who was provided with a searchlight with which to see smugglers.

Tradition says that the lemon or citron was found growing here when the first people set foot on the banks.

There is a small port, and from the piazza is a road leading to the church of 1685, which has five altars, four of which are of marble with pictures by Cavalier Celesti.

North of the village is the small Church of San Rocco with some frescoes. A good view of Monte Baldo is obtained from here, and shortly after the south end of the lake is hidden from view by it.

Beyond the "campi" are quarries, whence magnesium is obtained and sent to Brenzone to be prepared for explosives.

The lemons grown here have a sharper flavour than those of Sicily, and they are more useful because they travel better, and are considered the best on the whole of the Brescian Riviera.

The steamer passes by the side of the mountain on which the village of Pregasina (1,787 feet) occupies such a magnificent position, and then the entrance to the Ponale Waterfall from the lake is seen, at the base of the mighty Rocchetta

HISTORY OF RIVA DEL TRENTINO

(5,256 feet), which towers above the little harbour of Riva in the north-west corner of the lake.

On passing the Rocchetta a white line with scars is seen rising gradually from the harbour level, until it is lost to sight at the corner of the Val di Ledro, and this is the famous Ponale road.

HISTORY OF RIVA DI TRENTO

Riva has always had a chequered existence on account of its position on a plain at the head of the lake, towards which several valleys converge, and because it was a frontier town.

Its first inhabitants were Etruscans (remains of the Bronze Age have been found here), and they were followed by Celts and Romans.

Its original name of Riva was of Roman origin, and it is a known fact that the Romans held this region in the first century B.C., and the remains of a Roman fortress and inscriptions were found in the Piazza Castello.

One of these inscriptions is to the effect that Marcus Metellio built the castello. Another says that Claudia Severa left 60,000 cesterzi (9,000 lire) to the nautical college, so that wine and roses should be scattered yearly on the tombs of her family. It is also proved that it belonged to the "tribú Fabia," as did Brescia, and that Riva, with its nautical college, must have been one of the principal ports on the lake and a place of military importance.

The name of Garda as applied to the whole lake in place of Benaco is first mentioned in the twelfth century.

After the fall of the Roman Empire, Riva was subject to many raids from Lombards and Franks, and was given in tenure as a hostage and sacked and sold often.

It was under the dominion of the Scaligiri of Verona, the Visconti of Milan, the Carrare of Padova, the Count of Tirol, who handed it over to the Bishop of Trento; thence again to the Visconti and back to Trento in 1426. It then fell into the hands of the Venetians, and Italian soldiers of fortune led the troops.

LAGO DI GARDA

To free Brescia and open up the Val di Ledro, Venice was ordered to send a fleet of six galleys and twenty minor vessels up the Adige to Tórbole and Riva, and it took six months to accomplish, with 120 pairs of oxen to draw each galley over the roads. In the ducal palace of Venice is a fresco depicting this achievement.

In a naval encounter at Maderno the Venetian fleet suffered defeat at the hands of the Visconti fleet and only two galleys returned to Tórbole, so all their work had been in vain.

But Venice did not lose heart, and she sent materials to Riva by the same route, and thirty-two boats were constructed there, and then another naval battle was fought off Riva between Tórbole and the Ponale, and the Visconti were totally defeated.

Riva was besieged again and taken in 1440 by the Venetians, and remained in their hands till 1509, together with Tórbole, Nago, Castel Penède, and the Val di Ledro.

In the battle of Ghiaredadda this part fell into the hands of the Austrians, but in the Wars of the Spanish Succession the French destroyed the Bastion of Riva, built by the Venetians, also the city walls and the highest tower of the Rocca. In 1805 the Trento and the Tirol were joined to Bavaria, in 1809 to Italy, and in 1814 to Austria, in whose hands it remained for a hundred years. In the last Great War (1914-1918) the English helped the Italians to retake this part, which has now passed into the hands of the United Kingdom of Italy, where it is to be hoped it will remain for ever, for few towns have had such a troubled existence.

It still bears the scars of the last bombardment, but no doubt they will soon be swept away now.

RIVA

Riva is the principal town on the Lago di Garda, at the base of the precipitous Rocchetta (5,090 feet). Being situated at the north end of the lake, it is not a winter resort, also the cold winds blow down the valley of the

Sarca ; but in spring it is pleasant, and in summer the heat is rendered less oppressive by the wind from the lake, and also by the fact that in the afternoon the town is in the shadow of the mountains. To the west lie the Cima d'Oro (6,043 feet) and the Rocchetta, forming a grand semicircle.

The harbour is a busy little place and the houses overlooking it are arcaded. The Torre Aponale, or Portus a Ponale of the Romans, watches over it. The date of its construction is unknown, but it is mentioned in the archives of the town as far back as 1273, when it formed part of the fortifications of the town. In 1552 the upper part was added and it lost its character as a fort. Fortunately the guns in the last war spared this relic of antiquity and only carried away the cupola, surmounted by an iron cross. This is in the Piazza Benacense.

To the west of this piazza is the Palazzo Pretorio with arcades, erected by the della Scala family in 1370, and restored in 1555. This is now called the Palazzo Municipio.

Under the arcades, which were also built by the Scaligeri, there are inscriptions let into the wall, one in Hebrew, so that perhaps it belonged to a synagogue. A Jewish community existed in Riva, for in 1552 Bishop Cleseo alluded to the privileges accorded to the Jews by the Venetians. It is also noted that in 1525 there was a Hebrew printing press in Riva.

Skirting the port on the left side of the road, the Piazza San Rocca is reached, and the Rocca, surrounded by a moat, is seen. It was built by Riva as a castle for its own defence ; the Scalegeri added to the castle and the Venetians embellished it. It eventually passed into the hands of the Bishop of Trento, who sold it in 1850 to the Austrian Government, and it was turned into barracks and spoilt. Up to this date it had been one of the most picturesque of castles. It is now vacated.

To the west of Riva, on the mountain slope, 1 km. distant, is the Bastione, the remains of a castle of the eleventh century, with a single tower of imposing dimensions.

There are two old gateways still existing, the Porta San Marco and the Porta San Michele. The latter has an

LAGO DI GARDA

archway with lofty square tower over it with battlemented top, and is built into the houses on either side. It has been repaired since the Armistice and its appearance not altered.

Near here, in the Via del Vento, is the Chiesa Parrocchiale della Maria Assunta, or parish Church of Riva. The parish priest held the title of "Archiprete," as the head of all the churches on the lake in 1189, but this right was taken away by the Bishop of Trento.

The existing building is a very large one, and was built in 1720 on the site of an old one, and the present chapel on the south side is believed to have been part of the original church. It has a gallery in the wall on the east and west sides, from which you look down upon the chapel below, very much in the form of boxes at a theatre. The south corner of the roof has been destroyed by a shell; the hole is now plastered up, but there is no painting on it, and there is also a big crack in the arch and wall opposite to it.

The church has nine altars with different coloured marble columns. The pictures in them are the "Assunta" with the Ten Apostles, in the high altar; the "Addolorata" by Giuseppe Craffonara; "Sant' Antonio abate," and "San Paolo eremita" attributed to Piazzetta; the "Beata Vergine del Rosario"; "San Domenico," and "San Bartolomeo" by Gian Bellino Cignarolli.

On the outside of the south wall an ancient bas-relief of the Madonna which belonged to the old church is built in.

Close to this was the little Church of San Spirito, but it was so badly damaged in the war that it had to be demolished.

Chiese Inviolata.—This church is in the Viale Roma, further out of the town through the Porta San Michele, and it can be at once recognized by its octagonal shape both inside and outside. It is a good example of the Renaissance style, and was the work of a Portuguese architect in 1603. It was restored in 1906.

There are three doors—north, south, and west—with the high altar to the east, and between each of these is another altar with a picture. Each one has marble columns of different colours, that surrounding the Crucifixion, of the Bolog-

nese school, is black with white architraves, and the other three of San Gerolamo, San Carlo Borromeo, and Sant' Onofrio have coloured marble columns and surroundings.

The main altar goes right across the apse and is made of red, pink, and white marbles, and on the super-altar is a fine receptacle for the "Host" made of the same colours. On either side are two low doors embossed in blue and gold, while the Communion rails of coloured marbles have an iron grille above, with handsome doors of the same metal enclosing the whole space. There are some frescoes on the wall, but they seem to have been much damaged. All the altars are shut off with marble rails and low, carved wooden doors.

The spandrils above the arches have raised white stucco figures, and all the pillars are much painted and decorated.

The octagonal cupola is most ornate, with eight life-size figures in black round the clerestory, and another smaller set above the capitals against the roof.

There are some handsomely carved wooden choir stalls, and the outside of the doors is the same.

Both the roof and figures have been damaged by the bombardment.

The *Church of San Giuseppe*, in the Via Disciplini, has been so much damaged that it has big holes in the roof and it is tumbling to pieces, and will doubtless soon be pulled down; but there is a marble Communion table and a side altar that might well be preserved and erected elsewhere.

The *Church of San Rocco* was close to the Municipio, but a bomb has carried away the greater part, which is now reduced to a heap of stones, leaving half the apse intact with its frescoes. These are all exposed to the weather, and temporarily blocked up with planks for about eight feet from the ground. It was built in 1512 after a visitation from the plague.

La Galleria Lutti no longer exists, as the pictures were all removed at the beginning of the war, and it is believed that they are now in private hands.

There were only ten houses left in Riva that had not been damaged by shell fire, and there were still in March, 1924,

LAGO DI GARDA

many large buildings standing without roofs or window frames, only the stone walls remaining.

EXCURSIONS FROM RIVA SUL GARDA

The first excursion to the west is to the Ponale Cascade (4.5 km.), and the best approach to it is by motor boat, which takes about 20 minutes. The water which forms the cascade comes from the Lago Ledro and is utilized by the electric light company on its way down.

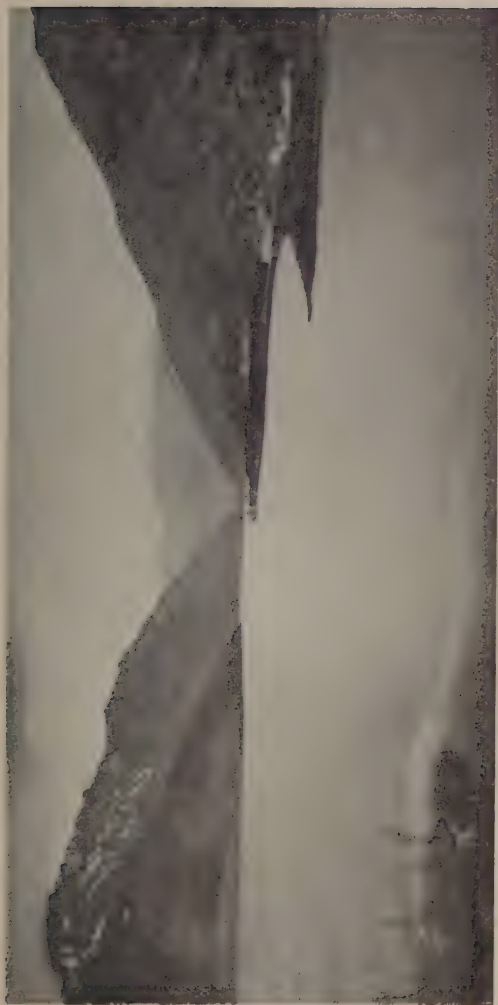
PONALE ROAD AND VAL DI LEDRO

The upper part of this lake was in the war zone of 1914-1918, and if a line were drawn right across it from side to side about 10 km. out from Riva, it would give roughly the frontiers of Tirol and Lombardy, held respectively by Austria and Italy. The former held the semicircle of mountains to the north of the Val di Ledro, which includes the Rocchetta and Monte d'Oro, while the Italians were posted on the ridge on the south of the lake, which includes Monte Lavino and Monte Tremalzo. The latter also held Monte Altissimo, the northern high peak of the Monte Baldo range, where they were helped by the English.

The Ponale road starts from the Piazza Benacense and begins to rise above the harbour near the Hotels Europa and du Quai, both of which were burnt out by bombs sent from the Altissimo. The former has been rebuilt, while the latter remains a shell. The road rises and winds at the foot of the stupendous mass of the Rocchetta (5,256 feet), which is overwhelming when you are directly under it, for a good part of the road has been cut out of the rock.

Shortly after leaving Riva a projection towards the lake affords a good view of the town with the plain behind it, and, of the three humps, with that on which Arco Castle is built.

A short tunnel follows, and then a second much longer



LAGO LEDRO

PONALE ROAD AND VAL DI LEDRO

than the first, which was strongly fortified by the Austrians, and over it there is now a memorial tablet to the memory of the Austrian battalion who held it.

Inside the tunnel is an iron door, which gives access to 190 steps inside the rock leading down to the lake below. There was a searchlight placed here also.

Outside there is a natural curve inland, with a deep, stony cleft between the mountains, and this was the point of separation between the armies.

The Austrian front line entrenchments are on the one side high above one's head, with the openings for the guns of the hidden mountain batteries beneath, and a large cavern giving access to them from below, all having been well camouflaged during the war.

Just across the ravine were the Italian first line trenches, low down, connected by a tunnel with others higher up, with small round openings in the face of the mountain for their guns.

The whole of the Ponale road was heavily mined by the Austrians, and this dividing bridge across the ravine, as well as other parts, were blown up on the declaration of war. The Austrians could press a button from their tunnel and explode these mines whenever necessary.

You can still see across the lake the black lines of the barbed wire entanglements erected by the Italians and English on Monte Altissimo.

The third tunnel is very long and set far back in the mountain, but with one deep opening overhanging the lake, and a tablet on the wall opposite the opening to the memory of Giacomo Cis, who planned the road and superintended the building of it from 1848 to 1851. He was a native of Bezzecca.

Soon after this the road continues under overhanging rocks, and here again the Austrians had blown up the road, while it was still in the hands of the Italians. At the present time this part is simply shored up and spanned by a wooden bridge, while a new tunnel 170 metres long is being blasted out of the rock behind.

From this corner, before turning into the Val di Ledro,

LAGO DI GARDA

there is a good view of the mountains on the southern side of the Ponale Gorge, as well as of the mule-path leading up to the village of Pregasina, from which there is a footpath over the mountains to Tremosine.

At a lower level on the eastern slope of this mountain another road is being marked out, which will run the Ponale road close for skill, if it ever gets finished, and will lead down to Porto Tremósine. At present it consists of a line chipped out of the rock, barely high enough for a man to stand on and bridged by planks over the chasms, of which some have already fallen away, so it requires an immense amount of nerve on the part of the workmen.

When the corner is rounded into the Val di Ledro the upper entrance to the Ponale Falls is seen, and a steep path from here leads to the road above. The electric light works which originally stood here exist no longer, so new ones have been built higher up the valley.

The road now begins to climb by four zigzags, and at the top of the second corner there is a pink granite pillar erected to the memory of a native of Riva, an Austrian subject who fought with the Italians and fell.

The bottom of the Ledro valley belonged to the Austrians at the beginning of the war, while the tops of the mountains to the south of it belonged to the Italians, so the villages in the hollow suffered severely.

The mountains draw further apart, and on looking back the wavy, ribbon-like line of road is a marked feature.

The new electric light works are now seen down in the valley by the side of the River Ledro. Some 1,500 feet above them on the mountain is a huge tank, holding 500 hectolitres (about 124,000 gallons) of water, which is carried all the way from the Lago Ledro in an aqueduct and underground tunnels. The overflow from this juts out from the rock, and forms an imposing cascade: first, a sheer wide fall, then it is projected forward over a flat ridge of rock and forms a second cascade wider than the first; after this huge boulders in its course split it up into several divisions, but all meet again a little lower down, when it continues its course by leaps and bounds, sometimes hidden by projecting

PONALE ROAD AND VAL DI LEDRO

rocks, but only to reappear once again in its headlong course to help to swell the torrent down the valley, and ultimately flow into the lake. There are three slight bridges spanning it at intervals.

Just above this point is a bridge over the stream leading from one side of the valley to the other, and here from below is a very pretty view of the rocks standing up out of the bed of the stream with the water leaping and bounding over them, with slopes that are really green on either side, but at the moment covered with early spring flowers.

This spot is near the village of *Biacesa* (6.3 km. from Riva) and belonged to Austria. It lay between the two combatants in the direct line of fire and suffered badly. On the church wall, which is above on the main road, there is a war memorial, and in the cemetery adjoining some 2,000 soldiers who fell here, have been buried in about 135 graves, each having a small cross or tombstone at the head in white stone, with the date 1918 on it.

On looking back the mountains appear to cross and enclose the valley, and looking ahead two villages are seen ; the one across the head of the valley near the stream is called *Prè*, with its church in the middle of it. This suffered so severely that only about six of the old houses remain, and new, ugly, high buildings with plastered walls and bright red roofs have been built to accommodate the families who were burnt out.

From *Prè* a mule-path goes up the mountain on the south side, out of sight, and afterwards divides and goes between the mountains to the summer resorts of *Leano* and *Cadrione*, to which the inhabitants of *Riva* repair when it is too hot for them below. Many mountain excursions can be made from them. On the eastern slope of this mountain more Italian trenches can just be descried very high up, looking towards the village of *Prè*.

The road here makes three zigzags, and at the first corner is the little cemetery belonging to the village of *Prè* down in the valley.

The high mountains on the south side of the valley cease abruptly, and their place is taken by a series of low humps, and in front of them there is a long, green plateau on which

LAGO DI GARDA

the new part of the village and the church of *Molina* are built, while the old part lies on the other side of the stream.

It seems to be a busy and fairly prosperous place. There is a factory with a very tall chimney for making magnesium, which is obtained by quarrying the rocks close by ; a weaving industry for making cloth, and a factory for making the iron nails for mountaineering boots and shoes.

This village is the birthplace of A. MAFFEI, who translated Byron, Milton, Shakespeare, Schiller, Goethe, and Gessner into Italian.

The main road passes through the old part of the town, and when the low humps on either side are rounded a bridge is seen spanning the stream with an arch over it and a shrine at the side, both of them damaged. A road on the far side of this leads up to the other part of the village on the plateau.

Here the road goes by the side of the stream, and a full view is obtained of the low, marshy ground along its banks with the reeds rising out of the Lago di Ledro.

LAGO DI LEDRO

This lake is 2,183 feet above sea level, at the west end of the Val di Ledro, between the valleys of the Chiese and the Sarca. It is a small, typical lake in the heart of the mountains, with dark, placid waters, the edges shallow with many rushes and their reflections. It is very much wider than you expect, when you have passed through the narrow opening, which is hidden beforehand by a hillock at the corner, which shuts off the view from the road on approaching it. It goes east and west, and the mountains on the south side, which face north, are bare, steep, and dark ; but in March they were flecked with snow from top to bottom. In front of this higher range are hills covered with green grass. Between these are mountain-paths, and a track leads through a pretty wooded glen to a pass over the mountain to the Tremósine plateau.

Above the main road, which winds round close to the water, are grassy terraces, which were also white, but from

STORO TO TASCOLANO BY VAL VESTINO

snowdrops; while Christmas roses, hepaticas, cowslips, and primroses were in bloom.

About a mile from the opening to the lake, that is to say, half way, the land projects out, and on this point is an "osteria," with covered terraces on the lake, where wine can be obtained and a luncheon (if taken with you) can be eaten in peace and comfort.

We were warmly welcomed here by the proprietor because we were English, and he had formed a very good opinion of our "Tommies" during the war.

The Lago di Ledro is only 2.8 km. long, 1.2 km. broad, with a depth of 47 metres in the widest part. The fish found in it are trout, pike, tench, carp, and "barbio." During an exceptionally cold winter it has been completely frozen over.

On looking back towards the lake of Garda two low, grassy hillocks appear almost to close the entrance to the Lago di Ledro, leaving only room for the road and stream, while the campanile of Molina Church fills up the centre of the gap, a prominent object with the afternoon sun glinting on its cupola.

A few houses above the road form the village of Mezzolago, and in a churchyard five minutes' walk up the hillside of the Colle di San Stefano a good many war victims were buried.

The road goes on to the head of the lake, and shortly after passes the village of *Pieve di Ledro*, which is backed up by the mountains called the Alpi di Ledro.

The next place is *Bezzecca*, occupying a very fine position, but it was badly damaged in the war. This is where Giacomo Cis, who planned and engineered the Ponale Road, was born. The Valle Dei Concei joins the Val di Ledro at this village of *Bezzecca*.

STORO TO TOSCOLANO BY VAL VESTINO

The Val Vestino may be approached from Bondone by a footpath, but a more interesting way is through Val Lorina, a narrow glen that enters Val Ampola from Storo, where

LAGO DI GARDA

the scenery is of the wildest description. From the head of this valley another path leads to the Tremósine plateau.

To the right there is a path, between the low summit of Caplone and the higher ridge of the Tombea, which descends to the village of Magasa at the head of Val Vestino.

From here there is a track to the Toscolano valley, and between Monte Castello and Pizzocolo.

The valleys in the north belong to the Tridentina and those in the south to Lombardy.

The next village is *Tiarno di Sotto*, about $3\frac{1}{2}$ km. further on, where there is a sawmill. The Church of San Bartolomeo has some frescoes and Venetian mosaics.

Tiarno di Sopra is the highest-lying village in the valley, and was badly devastated in the war. A motor service from Riva goes up the Val di Ledro as far as this village and then turns back. From here another bus goes up the Val d'Ampola to Storo, whence it turns northwards to Cà Rossa, 10 minutes' run from Storo.

For the continuation of this road southwards to Lago d'Idro and Salò refer to pages 23 to 26.

From Storo the road turns northwards to *Condino* (1,446 feet), the chief place in the upper Chiese, and this, with the upper valley of the Sarca, make up the district of Giudicaria. Here is found the granite called "pietra Salaccia" used for doorposts, lintels, etc.

From Condino the road continues northwards and climbs up from Val Daone, a lateral valley to the west, which leads to the magnificent mountains of the Gruppo dell'Adamello, and reaches the low ridge between the Arno and the Chiese on which Roncone (2,280 feet) is situated, and then descends to *Tione* (1,919 feet).

It is the principal place of the Val Rendena and of the whole district of Giudicaria, and is extremely picturesque.

Here the road forks—that to the left continuing northwards to the Val di Rendena, which is the inhabited portion of the upper valley of the Sarca with *Pinzolo* at the northern extremity. Near here the Sarca issues from the Val di Genova, a glen in dense forests with the village of Carisolo at the eastern end.

MADONNA DI CAMPIGLIO, TRENTINO

About half a kilometre from Pinzolo is the Church of San Vigilio, which is covered with frescoes inside and outside, painted in 1536. There is also another Church of San Stefano on the top of a rock at the mouth of the Val Genova, which is adorned with frescoes.

San Vigilio first preached the Gospel in these parts and was stoned near Pieve di Val Rendena.

After leaving Pinzolo the road turns north-north-east through the Val di Nambino, and in due course reaches *Madonna di Campiglio* (5,200 feet). This is situated in a wooded high valley and is 80 km. from Bolzano (Bozen) by car, between the Brenta and Bresanella group.

MADONNA DI CAMPIGLIO, TRENTINO

This mountain village is 5,200 feet up and is 80 km. from Bolzano by car. It can be reached by rail from Milano to Verona, where the train is changed for one up the Adige valley to Trento and Malé, thence one hour in a motor bus; or a third route is by leaving the train from Milano at Brescia, and taking the road train to Vestone, thence by motor buses. Another route is to leave the train from Verona at Trento, thence a motor bus goes by Vezzano, Sarche, Tione, and Pinzolo, taking $7\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

All the routes go through lovely, mountainous country.

A thousand years ago the Emperor Charlemagne, on his way to Italy, camped his troops here in the Brenta Dolomites, and on that spot to-day there is a nine-hole golf course laid out by an Englishman, which may soon be further extended. The ground is called Campo Carlo Magno still.

Some of the Dolomite mountains surrounding it raise their snowy peaks to a height of 10,000 feet, and the air is delightfully invigorating. Attractive walks have been laid out through the pine trees, which will grow at a height of 7,000 feet. The hotels open in June and close in September, and are first class. The Grand Hotel des Alpes has 250 beds and the Golf Hotel 130 beds.

LAGO DI GARDA

In June the meadows are covered with gentians, pansies, anemones, and alpine roses.

MENDOLA

There is a motor bus service between Madonna di Campiglio and Bolzano now. After leaving the former place the road goes north-east to *Dimaro*, where it divides, the one to the west going to Tonale and the Ortler group of mountains and the Stelvio Pass to Spondigna.

That to the east reaches Malè in 30 minutes, then goes north-east to Fondo, after which with many zigzags it reaches Mendola (4,100 feet), an Alpine resort. It is 25 km. from Bolzano, and takes about $1\frac{1}{4}$ hours, going over the Pass of Mendola. From Mendola it is 55 km. to Carezza and the same to Merano. The Grand Hotel has 200 beds, and the Hotel Regina del Bosco some 75. The Paradiso has 100 beds.

From Mendola the road goes on to *Bolzano* (880 feet), reaching it in about $1\frac{1}{4}$ hours. It was the most important commercial town in the Tirol, and is beautifully situated, with lofty ranges to both the west and east. It is on the main road to Innsbruck, which still remains in the hands of Austria, with the new frontier close to Brennero and the Brenner Pass, while Bolzano is in Italy.

To the north-west a road leads to Merano, thence to Spondigna and the Stelvio Pass and Ortler Mountains.

To the south-west there is the route just described, with an extension from Dimaro further westwards to Tonale, *Édolo*, and the Adamello group of mountains.

To the east is the great Dolomite road, 70 miles long. There is a motor service which goes along it to Cortina d'Ampezzo, a distance of 111 km., taking about $9\frac{1}{4}$ hours.

Before reaching this road, we will take a look at *Carezza*, only 21 km. by car or bus from Bolzano. It is in a valley 5,500 feet above sea level, and there are frequent motor services from Bolzano, taking 2 hours for the journey.

The easiest route for English travellers is by Basle, whence

MENDOLA

there is a through train to Innsbruck, and a connexion by the Brenner Pass with Bolzano.

Carezza is remote from town or village, but there are a few necessary shops, and a nine-hole golf course surrounded by magnificent views of the rocky Dolomite heights. Lawn tennis courts are numerous, and it is a good centre for both walking and climbing, with pleasant footpaths and walks across the wide valley, of which the meadows and slopes are covered with flowers. Above the pine woods the rugged mountains tower and shelter it and its little green lake from the winds. It is also a good motoring centre.

The Hotel Karersee is most luxurious and has an excellent orchestra, and concerts and dances are the order of the evening. There are also other hotels, such as the Passo di Carezza and the Latemar.

The drive from Carezza is through the wonderful ravine of the Ega valley (Eggental), a deep and gloomy gorge with the road blasted out of the rock, as there is only room for the stream with Nature's handiwork, and many bridges carry the road from side to side. At the entrance to the valley is Castello Carnedo, a picturesque and imposing old castle.

From Bolzano we must turn southwards in order to return to Riva sul Garda, so the Etschtal with the Adige River must be followed to Mezzolombardo on the Trento to Malè railway line, whence a detour can be made to see the *Lago di Molveno*.

This lake is at a height of 2,835 feet, and is 50 km. from Trento and 14 km. by car from San Michele. It lies between the Brenta Dolomites to the west and the Paganella to the east and is $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles long, and half a mile across at the widest part. There is good fishing and bathing all the summer, as there are hot springs in it, and a motor service runs from Riva by Ponte Arche in 4 hours. The village is at the north end of the lake, and the Hotel Molveno is on the east shore, with commanding views.

The Brenta Alta on the east side of Val Rendena are very fascinating by reason of their boldness, and the singularity of their isolated tower-like peaks, on one side at least almost vertical.

LAGO DI GARDA

At the east base of the mountain is the picturesque Lago Molveno, and the village of the same name is connected with Pinzolo in Val Rendena by the *Bocca di Brenta* (8,502 feet). This interesting pass is about 15 feet wide, and divides the Brenta Alta into two parts, the Lago Molveno lying between this and the ridge of Monte Gazza (6,500 feet), with the village on rising ground at the north end.

In the Val delle Seghe the mountains are of the most fantastic shape. It is so named from the sawmills worked at the entrance to the valley.

The ridge of Monte Gazza divides the valley of Molveno from the Adige and the road from Vezzano to Trento.

A motor service also connects with Mezzolombardo.

Next summer (1925) a new road is to be opened which will give still better communications.

Molveno has an excellent summer climate and is most attractive, with a fantastic beauty. There are pine and beach forests.

The Ortler, Adamello, and Brenta groups of mountains are now considered to belong to the Dolomite region, although they are distinct groups to the west of the Adige instead of the east. In September and October magnificent sunrises and sunsets are seen on the peaks, with gorgeous colourings.

Leaving Molveno by the south, the new road goes to Ponte Arche in $1\frac{1}{4}$ hours by car, crossing the Tione, Stenico, and Vezzano road to Trento. Thence it goes due south, passing Ballino and the little Lago di Tenno with its saffron hue. At the south of this the road forks; the one to the west goes to the village of *Pranzo* (1,543 feet), on the lower slope of the mountain. It possesses an old church and a good view over the plain between Arco and Riva, and then the road descends with many zigzags to *San Giacomo*, in the midst of vineyards and olive woods, and enters Riva by the Porto San Marco.

The other fork, to the east, goes through the village of *Tenno*, where there is a fine castle, which was once of importance, and the foundations at least go back to Roman times, but for many years it has been in private hands, and is in

TIONE TO RIVA BY STENICO

fairly good condition. From it there is a beautiful view over the Lago di Garda.

TIONE TO RIVA BY STENICO, RIVER SARCA AND ARCO

Tione (1,919 feet) is the principal place of Val Rendena and of the district of Giudicaria and is extremely picturesque. After descending from Tione to the bridge over the Arno the road goes through a rich and populous part of the valley on the south side of the Sarca, which flows east till it enters a remarkable cleft or defile, when the road crosses to the north of the stream for a while and then recrosses to the south side again.

On high ground to the north is *Stenico*, one of the chief villages of Giudicaria, with an old castle, some Roman remains, and local mediaeval history. Lower down the valley opens out, and then again contracts, and the road enters a gorge leading to the baths of *Comano*, and about 5 km. further south it enters a savage gorge through which the Sarca flows into a deep valley, and continues on its way to *Le Sarche*, a distance of 19 km. from Trento, and the place where it joins the high road from Trento by Arco to Riva (24 km.).

This route from Trento through the Val Sarca is charming and sometimes imposing. When the Adige is crossed to the west it ascends between vineyard walls at first, but a fine view is obtained on looking back, before the wild, rocky ravine of the *Buche di Vela* is entered.

At the end of this is a fertile district, and at a distance of 2.4 km. is the village of *Terlago*, with a small lake at the foot of Monte Gazza (6,518 feet), and the road winds round the rock, from which there is an imposing view to the village of Vigola, whence in another two kilometres *Vezzano* is reached, the most important place between Trento and Arco.

The road continues through Castel Toblino to Le Sarche, where it turns southwards and follows the line of the river to Arco and Riva.

LAGO DI GARDA

CASCATA DEL VARONE

Leaving Riva and going in a northerly direction the second road to the west branches off from the main road, along which the train runs, at the Chiese Inviolata, and follows the fork to the left, which has villas along it at intervals, and the barracks of the field artillery are passed.

The deep gorge, with the village of San Giacomo at the foot of the Rochetta, is noted, and from close by here the Austrians fixed a wire railway from the top to the piazza at Riva, in order to keep the army on the summit supplied with provisions, for their second line of defence was here.

The third line of defence was through the village of Varone across the plain to Monte Brione.

Up the gorge the village of Tenno can be seen high up, and it is from the Lago di Tenno that the waters come which make the Cascata del Varone.

A little to the east on the very top of the mountain is seen the small Church of San Pietro.

On the road to Varone there are some huts erected for the accommodation of the Austrian refugees, who are now wishful to return to Riva.

This waterfall is one of Nature's freaks, and it is really impossible to describe it. It descends almost vertically from an immense height, through rocks, with a great deal of chalk in them, at the end of a deep gorge.

The force of the water has made a semicircular chute at the back and formed a kind of cleft or tubular channel of varying width, with rocks of all sizes and shapes hollowed out. These sometimes nearly meet, and in consequence of the chalky nature of the rocks the water has made many fresh channels, wearing away the softer parts and leaving huge projections of the hard rock cut into fantastic shapes, and overhanging in such a way that here and there the two sides of the cavity almost touch in front, giving the appearance of a huge oyster shell overhead with its hollow side downwards.

This obstruction completely hides the water from view for a time, but the reverberation of it can be heard as it

ARCO, TRENTINO

thunders down into the dark depths of a pool at the bottom, from which it follows a sinuous course until it emerges into the open air.

The sky can only be seen in small patches at intervals, according to the position taken up below.

Half-way up is a small, slight bridge spanning the gorge. Outside the entrance to the cascade a zigzag path ascends to a good height and then arrives at a place where the path divides, the one to the left going to the small bridge, to which the public are not admitted. The other goes through a short tunnel to a 4-foot wide concrete bridge about 6 feet long, which crosses the middle of the chasm at a higher level, and on this spectators may go and experience the feeling of being suspended in the air with thunder reverberating round them.

From the bridge the water continues its course at a different line and falls sheer down in a perpendicular column.

On leaving the grounds in front of the Cascata del Varone the driving road turns eastward and skirts the base of the hill on which the path from Tenno goes by Varigusno and Sant' Antonio to Arco.

The road crosses the plain through the mulberry trees, and a turn to the left leads close up to the Dosso di Cavazzo, with its battlemented top, an outlying fort now out of fate.

From here, on looking westward, a fine view of the mountain range is obtained, and at the turn of the road to the east stands the convent of Santa Maria della Grazie, with the village of Chiarano not far off, and a view of the western slope of the high rock crowned by Arco Castle.

The road goes by the Grand Hotel des Palmes, the Casino, and the little public garden.

ARCO, TRENTINO

Arco (300 feet) is 5.5 km. to the north of Riva, on a fertile plain, where palms, magnolias, and olive trees grow, and where mulberry trees abound. To the north, east, and west it is sheltered by high mountains, but it is exposed to

LAGO DI GARDA

the *Ora*, blowing from the south, the force of which is a little broken by Monte Brione.

It is frequented as a winter resort, and the climate is much like that of Gardone but a little cooler, with not much dust or wind, and it is sedative.

It lies at the entrance to the beautiful Val Sarca, and the river forms a semicircle at the base of the precipitous rock (730 feet) on which the ruins of the Castle of Arco stand, for it was destroyed by the French in 1703. From the steps of a house facing the public garden an impressive view of the castle rock is obtained, showing that on the eastern side it goes sheer down to the ground.

The seventeenth century cathedral contains a fine altar and paintings. There is a casino with orchestra in the season, a theatre, cinema, and private club. The hydro-pathic establishment has sun and electric baths as well as water cures. The hotels are good. The Hotel Bellevue has tennis courts and 60 beds; the Strasser 85 beds; the Europa Casino 20 beds; Pension Villa Editha.

Walks of all descriptions abound. There are four roads between Riva and Arco, so a return drive or walk need never be by the same route, but averages about 9 km. The one follows the banks of the Riva Sarca to where it discharges itself into the lake between the eastern side of Monte Brione and Tórbole.

The hotels at Riva sul Garda suffered much during the war, and those at present open are in a transition state, but comfortable accommodation can be obtained at the Lido Palace (130 beds) close to the railway station, with large garden on the lake; the Bellevue, much smaller but modern; and the Europa (70 beds) on the quay. In the courtyard of one of the hotels further out of the town the cannon balls are still embedded in the ground.

The main road from Riva to Arco goes north-east in a straight line, and the railway runs along the same track without any division. About midway the little old Church of San Tomaso, either Roman or Lombard, is passed, a very plain, unpretentious building. Mulberry trees are again much in evidence.

NAGO

After the passengers have been deposited at Arco the road turns eastward towards Monte Stievo, and then again southward along the bottom of it, gently rising, so as to reach the level of the high ground between the two ranges of Monte Stievo and Monte Baldo, and curves round between them and stops at the station at *Nago*. This is the station for Tórbole, although it is a long way from it.

On the way to Nago there are charming views over the fertile plain between Riva and Arco from the rising road, and also an especially good one of Arco rock and castle through the olive trees; and further on an excellent one of the Rochetta, the Ponale road and the lake. By this winding route that almost doubles back, Nago is 11 km. from Riva.

Above the driving road at Nago, about 1½ km., there are "gletscher Muhlen," with the original grinding stones in them.

NAGO

At Nago there are four old picturesque churches, one standing alone on a hillock, and on the rocky ridge dividing Nago from Tórbole are the remains of the Castle of *Penede*. The foundations of this were of Roman origin. It was destroyed in 1703 by the French, but the ruins can be reached by a footpath from behind the forts of Nago, which were destroyed in 1859, and from here practically the whole of the Lago Garda can be seen on a clear day.

There is another old stony road which leads down from here to Torbole. There is not much of interest in Nago itself. Altissimo the highest peak of Monte Baldo can be climbed from here, and a short walk up the road to San Giovanni, where there is a shrine, affords a fine view over the valley on the further side eastwards.

Just here is the highest point of the watershed between the Sarca and Adige (1,066 feet).

The road and railway take separate routes from Nago at the highest point, passing through different natural gaps, but both wind down into the valley and ultimately run parallel with each other on the southern bank of *Lago Loppio*

LAGO DI GARDA

(904 feet). It is 2 km. long, with an irregular shore fringed with reeds, and huge wooded rocks sticking out of the water at intervals. In bygone ages a tremendous fall of rock in this valley dammed up the stream and thus formed the lake, which was given the same name as the valley bore.

The whole valley presents a very wild and deserted appearance. At the south end of the lake, which belonged to the Castelbarco family, is the village of Loppio and the house of this family, 21 km. from Riva.

From here both road and railway follow the course of the stream through a fruitful valley to *Mori* (4 km.). It is a small town at the junction of the Riva-Mori line with the Verona-Trento main line to Innsbruck. It has a Gothic church. Monte Altissimo can also be ascended from here.

Rovereto to the north-east of Mori is a good-sized town engaged in silk spinning and culture. Excellent red wine is also made. There is an old castello in the Piazza del Podesta.

On the Mori-Rovereto road, 2 km. from the former, are the ruins of a castle near Lizzaza, in which Dante is said to have stayed in 1300, after he had been banished from Florence as an adherent of the Ghibellines.

TÓRBOLE

From Nago there is a footpath leading over the brow of the hill direct to Tórbole, but the driving road branches off from the one to Arco when it reaches the low ground between Monte Stievo and Monte Baldo; thence it turns southwards and zigzags down behind the church at Tórbole into the village-street.

Tórbole is the most northerly place on the east side of Lago di Garda, and has an old-world, dilapidated appearance, without drainage or modern conveniences. There is a very small harbour with a few rowing and fishing boats, with a part enclosed for breeding fish just outside the town eastward.

It felt the effects of the Great War very much, but did not suffer from the bombardment to the same extent as

TÓRBOLE TO RIVA

Riva did, for lying at the foot of Monte Baldo the firing from there passed over it. All the same, a great many houses were injured, including the hotels, which are still shut up.

In 1786 Goethe lived in the Osteria della Rosa, where he wrote part of "Ephigenia," and a tablet was put up to his memory on an archway under the house, over a fountain. The column supporting the archway in the middle and the fountain on it remains, with a single course of stones which upheld the arch, but the house over it has been blown away as well as the memorial tablet.

The church, which stands high above the houses, is intact, and from the little terrace surrounding it a fine view of the Ponale road, with the gorge, can be obtained, as well as of the crags of Rocchetta.

There is a shore road southwards in course of construction to link up Torbole with Malcesine, and the line for it has been chipped out all the way, but tunnels will have to be built through the mountain spurs from Monte Baldo, which come down into the lake, so it will be some years before that road is an accomplished piece of work. But it would be of great advantage—at least from the motoring point of view—to link up all the places on the eastern shore, and so connect them with Riva by land.

But money is still scarce in Italy, and she has other plans of more importance to attend to first.

At present the steamer must be taken to Malcesine, or a 60 mile detour made by road through Nago, Mori, the Adige valley, which is on the eastern side of Monte Baldo, and then by Garda, San Vigilio, and Torri to Malcesine.

TÓRBOLE TO RIVA

To return to Riva direct we will now leave Tórbole by the main road and circle round the lake a short distance from it, crossing the River Sarca by a substantial stone bridge, where one of the four roads from Arco, the one by the eastern side of Monte Brione, joins it.

LAGO DI GARDA

Monte Brione is of a strange formation and from this side looks quite imposing. If you imagine a section of an orange laid on its side with the tips to the north and south and the broad outer skin to the east, with the slope to the west, you have a good idea of the shape of Monte Brione.

Facing east it is perpendicular, bare, and rocky, with numerous caverns in the side. The south end of the rock has been blasted away to make room for the road to wind round it, and at the next corner is the dumpy, battered fort of San Nicolo at the edge of the water. This was worked in conjunction with the others on the rock above.

No one is allowed to go on Monte Brione, for it is still in the hands of the military, who guard it jealously, as it is supposed to contain large stores of ammunition hidden away in the caverns, with which the slopes are honeycombed. It is very strongly fortified, as it commands the whole plain as well as the lake, and openings and emplacements can be discerned near the top.

The western lower slopes are covered with olive woods and vineyards, through which are alluring paths, because it is forbidden ground.

The main road only touches the lake at the protruding base of Monte Brione and the fort of San Nicolo, and so avoids the marshy ground that fringes the lake near the mouth of the River Sarca. Here there is a very large, private ground stretching down to the lake, which in pre-war days must have been most prolific, but at present everything is still in a bad condition.

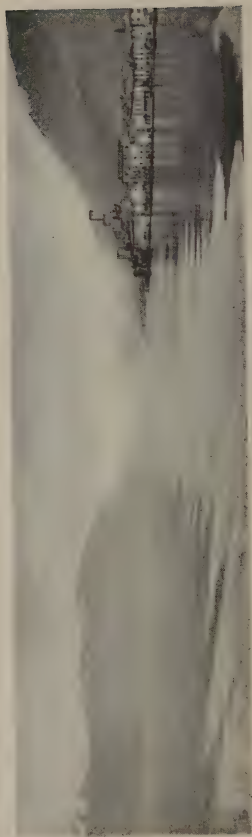
Further on the entrance to the Hotel du Lac is passed, a large, rambling building which suffered from the bombardment, and an extensive garden on the lake with beautiful views.

From this point there are villas on both sides of the road, which passes a fine avenue of trees leading to the Lido Palace Hotel, and parallel with the railway line, which here emerges from the station and crosses the main road on the same level.

The road continues through the town, past the post office, to the landing stage for the steamers.



STORM CLOUDS OVER RIVA-DI-TRENTO



MALCESINE, FROM THE STEAMER

MALCESINE

FROM RIVA TO GARDA BY STEAMER

From Tórbole southwards the slopes of Monte Baldo are very steep, bare, and rugged, with no house or hut to be seen for a time, and only a line representing the road for a distance of 3 km. At 5 km. from Torbole there is one solitary house, which in 1866 was on the frontier between the Trentino and Venetia, and shortly after the late boundary between Austria and Italy above the Punta di Val Marza (730 feet) is reached.

On looking back towards Riva the view is very beautiful of the distant mountains, the winding Ponale Road with the little village of Pregasina isolated on the lofty green slope, and Limone and its lemon "campi." The evening light is most charming.

Beyond this the landscape alters in character, and there is a little path leading up to the Madonna di Navene, a hamlet of a few houses, with the pass of the Bocca di Navene (4,765 feet) above it, leading over into the Adige valley.

This pass divides the northern end of Monte Baldo from the southern one, and many zigzag paths are seen leading up from the lake to seemingly inaccessible crags.

At 14 km. from Torbole and 7 km. from the old frontier the mountain-side is not so steep, and several hamlets are dotted about on the lower slopes, and a beautiful headland juts out into the lake.

MALCESINE

Malcesine is a most beautiful headland crowned with a castle and high tower. This castle dates back to the time of Charlemagne and was restored by the Scaligeri in 1300.

At the time when the lake was in the hands of the Venetians, Malcesine was the head-quarters of the captain of the lake fleet. The Austrians spoilt it in their endeavours to use it as a modern fort.

In 1786 Goethe visited the castle and was almost arrested as a spy because he began to draw it.

At the back of it are the old houses of the village, grouped

LAGO DI GARDA

round three small piazze, and in the Palazzo, now the Municipio, where the captain of the guard lived, the frescoes and pictures are still to be seen.

High above the village and not on the headland is the *parish church*, with inlaid marble altars and a picture by Gerolamo dei Libri (1472-1555) depicting the Descent from the Cross. In the church are kept the remains of the hermit Benigno and his disciple Carro, who are said to have lived on Monte Baldo in the ninth century. Their protection is evoked against earthquakes.

There is a landing stage for the lake steamers from Riva close to the little harbour, around which the piazza is built, and here are situated the two hotels, that of Malcesine and the Albergo Italia.

The small, uninhabited island *Isola dell' Oliva* is 1 km. to the south of Malcesine, and it is also called *Isola de Gallo*, because on it is a solitary olive tree in the shape of a cock. At another, 1 km. distant, is the dream island, *Isola del Sogno*. There is plenty of boating, bathing, fishing, walking, and climbing.

Above the shore is a low ridge of hills with green slopes and many zigzag paths over them, leading to the villages scattered about, and there is also a very steep, difficult path by means of which Monte Maggiore (7,333 feet), the highest point in that section of Monte Baldo, may be ascended.

From Malcesine southwards the road is called *La Gardesana*, and it passes the small Church of the *Madonna della Fontana* amongst the olive trees. Further on, at *Cassone*, in the middle of the piazza, is a spring of water called "Re" or "Ri." Its force is so tremendous that it is partly diverted to drive several mills, including an olive mill. The church is above the village and has a fifteenth century picture, depicting the removal of San Zeno's remains to Verona.

After leaving this village the island of *Tremelone* is passed, on which are the ruins of a Scaligeri tower and some rocks. A legend is woven around this spot, for the rocks are called after the twin sons of Baldo and Melsinoe, who, when old, with trembling limbs, called upon the gods not to part

them ; their prayer was answered and they were turned into two of these rocks, which were called, after them, " Treme-lone."

The next village is *Ascensa*, formerly called Menarolo, and the domain of the Spolverini family is there. Olive trees grow on the shore, and there are some hamlets on the slopes.

The *Porto di Brenzone* consists of a small group of old houses around a little port, and above it is the village of Brenzone, with a factory for the manufacture of magnesium. The church stands on a hill, from which there is a good view.

Soon after the village of *Magunano* appears, with old houses in small gardens. On the right of the landing stage is a noticeable ancient house with loggia and two wings jutting out into the lake. This was the original headquarters of the Commune, which in 1840 took the name of *Castello di Brenzone*, and included many of the villages around.

The church is octagonal and dedicated to San Carlo Borromeo. There is also a convent and a new church.

From here is one of the finest views across the lake to Gagnano and the mountains behind it.

At a distance of 1 km. from here is the little church in which San Zeno was originally buried, before his remains were removed to Verona, where we shall presently see the representation of him.

Further south is the village of *Pai*, originally called Pali, which belongs to the commune of Torri del Benaco, and consists of a row of houses on the shore, and of the Palazzo Brogi, with an octagonal tower and two loggias.

The village of *Villanova*, with olive trees, breaks the monotony of the slopes above and that of *Albisano* is sighted on the ridge above Torri, with its church dominating everything.

From here southwards there are marble quarries, the yellow variety behind Torri being much sought after.

LAGO DI GARDA

TORRI DEL BENACO

This is the *Castrum Turricum* of the Romans, which consisted of a castle with surrounding walls. It was restored in 1383 by the Scaligeri family, and it had three towers, one in the middle and one at each end. But it is now in the hands of a shoemaker, and is all tumbling to pieces, and the very stones are carried away to be used for other purposes.

The remaining walls are used as supports for the pergolas of the lemon "*campi*," which are thus protected from the north wind. These are very ugly and quite spoil the artistic effect, but doubtless more productive from the cobbler's point of view.

The parish church is large, with a modern elevation to the west. The five altars, with red and purplish marble columns, are beautified by paintings by the following Veronese artists: Simone Brenlana (1656-1718), Pietro Rotari (1707-1762), Bartolomeo Signorini, born about 1690, and Felice Cignaroli (1725-1795).

The modern village of Torri is quite a large one, with a few interesting old houses with arches, and there is a deep arcade on one side of the little port, where the *Albergo Gardesana* is situated. The inhabitants are mostly engaged in fishing, and possess some forty boats, by means of which they catch trout, carp, eels, sardines, etc.

Torri is just opposite Salò, where the lake begins to widen out to the south; and from the heights above a first-rate view is obtained of Monte Pizzocolo and its satellites.

The distance from Castello di Brenzone is 10·3 km., from Bardolino 10·9, and from Verona 39·6.

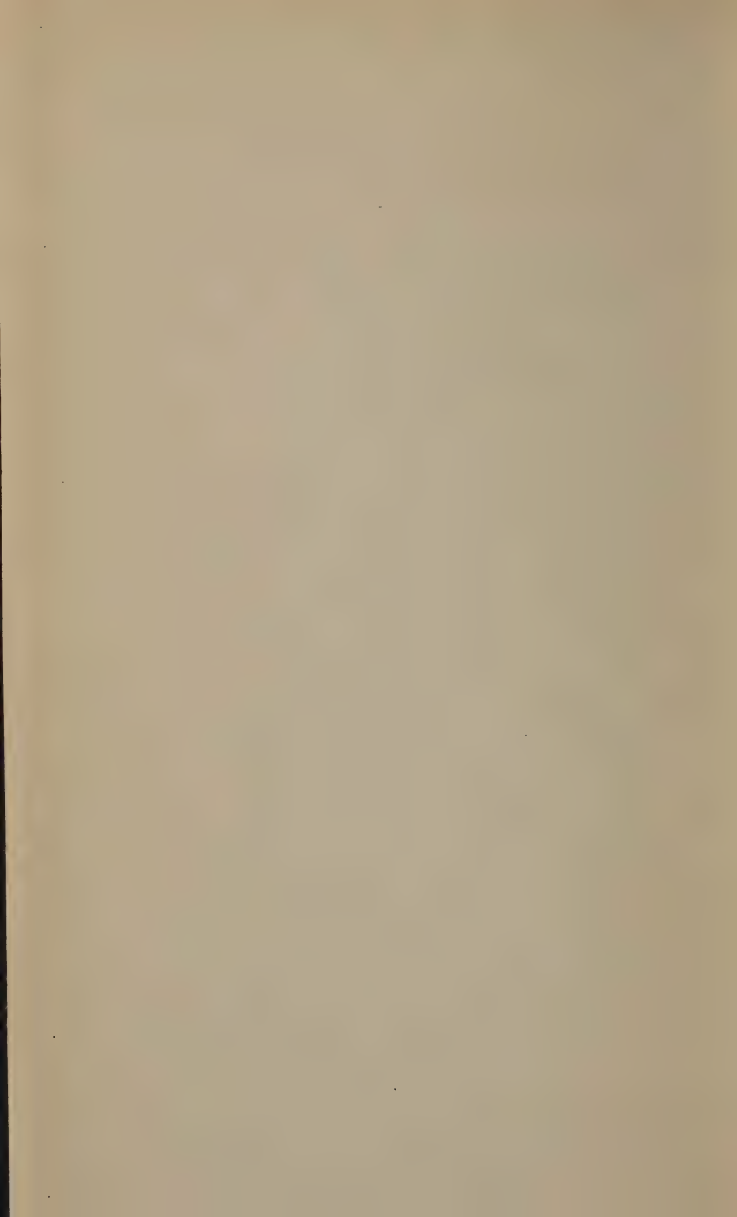
We asked some fisher lads to row us from Torri to San Vigilio, and were much surprised to find that one of them had been in America and could speak English fairly well.

SAN VIGILIO

The road from Torri goes southwards close to the lake,



SAN VIGILIO, LAGO DI GARDA



SAN VIGILIO

rising steadily all the way until it approaches the Punta di San Vigilio, when it cuts off a corner as the domain of the Conte Guariente di Brenzone occupies the point.

This is approached from the main road by a beautiful avenue of cypress trees, and the latter form one of the main features of this lovely spot. No more restful spot can be found on the whole lake for a short sojourn.

At the shore end of this avenue will be found the little chapel, which was for many years the only building on the point, and is right on the water's edge, on the south side. It is dedicated to San Vigilio, Bishop of Trento (385-402), who was martyred at the hands of the pagans of Val Rendena. Emperors and kings have come to visit this "chiesetta."

It consists of two distinct parts: the old with the main altar and pagan, transparent, alabaster columns, and also a small marble statue of San Vigilio and the prophet Daniel. The former did more in the fourth century to Christianize the people than anyone else has done.

The solid, square house with deep verandas in the adjoining grounds is the *Villa Brenzone*.

This was built by Conte Agostino di Brenzone in the fourteenth century from the designs of the Veronese architect Sanmicheli. The Conte had held high offices in Rome and Venice and was in search of a place in which he could rest.

He enlarged the Chapel of San Vigilio, and built a tomb in it for himself, but he died in Venice in 1566, and his ashes remain there still.

Outside the chapel, in the garden of the villa, is a pseudo-tomb of Catullus with an epitaph; and on the house opposite to it is a rotunda to the memory of Vittor Pisane, the Milanese painter. Near the gate is a bust of Agostino Brenzone, and on the walls fragments of inscriptions in praise of giving hospitality, rest, and refreshment in order to enable workers to return to their duties.

The villa passed successively into the hands of French, Spaniards, and Austrians, so the house has been despoiled of much of its valuable contents and the statues and inscriptions in the gardens defaced or removed.

LAGO DI GARDA

The property is again in the hands of the Brenzone family, who are in residence there from May to December.

On leaving the garden gate a turn to the right leads down a cobbled lane, past some cottages, to a large house, under which is an archway opening on to a tiny harbour.

This "Locanda" is a very quaint place, now in the hands of an Irish-American, who receives paying guests, and English visitors will find themselves in comfortable quarters, with good food and cooking.

Mr. Walsh has a motor boat in which he can fetch guests from Desenzano, Salò, or Gardone, and by which excursions can be made. The postal town is Garda-Veronese.

The fishing boats from Torri and Garda are always passing backwards and forwards, close under the windows, and you can lie in bed and watch the sails go by and fancy yourself at sea without the discomfort of a rolling boat.

The east windows give a good view over Garda, with the sun rising behind the mountains at the back of the little town, and also of the tiny harbour, which usually shelters a few boats with their many-coloured sails.

The fishermen who take shelter there seem a quiet, respectable set of men, and are sometimes ready to earn some additional money by taking you out to fish.

The sardine fishing boats usually go out in couples with one big net between the two boats, with the men standing up to row. When a shoal of sardines is sighted another boat drives it towards the nets, which are let down so as to form an ever-narrowing circle, and in this way there is no escape for the fish, for the net is in the shape of a bolster fastened up at one end.

Sometimes large trout weighing about fifteen pounds are caught, and these are sent mostly to Milan and Turin.

The bay of Garda, formed by the promontory of San Vigilio, is usually calmer than the more open part of the lake, as it is so well protected on the north.

A great deal of the fishing is carried on at night, and by day the fishermen may be seen sound asleep on the shore

SAN VIGILIO

under the shelter of the olive trees, with their boats drawn up on the beach. On Sundays they take the day off and enjoy the society of their families and neighbours.

On the south wall of the "Locanda," on the east portion where the fishermen used to congregate, was formerly a statue of Neptune standing on two carp (*Salvo carpio*), for this fish was considered the king and the pride of this part of the lake. Many legends circle round it, and it was said that the carp fed on sands of gold.

Only a fragment of the statue remains, for some Italians threw the greater part into the lake.

On the east wall of the "Locanda," overlooking the little port, is a group in marble, in a niche, representing San Marco placing a silver ring on the hand of Benaco, typical of the lake, under the auspices of San Vigilio, who stands in his mitre on the right. He pronounces a blessing on the fishing industry. As a silver ring is symbolical of the lake, so a golden one is of the sea.

The inscription below it says :

"Ecco, o almo Vigilio, che sotto i tuoi auspici Marco sposa con l'anello d'argento il Benaco, come con quello d'oro (sposa) il mare."

Marco is the Venetian Republic.

We must now return to that beautiful avenue of cypress trees, to which the gates are no longer *in situ*, only the jambs remaining. The road turns sharply eastward here, round the base of Monte Luppia, which contains the quarries of yellow marble (*Giallo di Torri*) and the beautiful purple with white streaks, or white with purple veining (*Mandolato di Torri*).

The road descends gently through the olive woods, giving delightful glimpses through them to the east banks of the lake. About half-way down an iron gate gives access to the property of the Marchese Conossa, a long, low house facing the lake with clumps of trees on either side of it and a very green, grassy slope down to the water's edge.

There is a good view of the Bay of Garda as the road winds in and out, especially when the lowering sun lights up

LAGO DI GARDA

the eastern shore of Bardolina and Lazise, with the many fruitful valleys at the back of them.

In the setting sun the reflections of the whole of the shore in the placid waters are very fine, especially if some of the fishing boats and two-masters are making their way homewards, with their ochre and orange sails patched with green, the brown masts changed to a beautiful emerald green, and tiny ripples breaking up the hard lines, and then dividing up into circles all over the reflections.

Before entering the little town of Garda on the left is a large house, shut in by high walls, belonging to the Conte Albertini of Verona, which is well worth a visit, if an opportunity presents itself.

GARDA

The small town of Garda was once the most important place on the south portion of the lake, but tradition says that the old part is now at the bottom under the water.

In the ninth century it freed itself from Verona and became an independent county, and in 904 it was a town with rights over the adjacent territories.

Garda lies in a sheltered corner of the lake, protected on the north by the range of mountains of which Monte Luppia (1,394 feet) is the foreground, with the mighty bulk of Monte Baldo behind it. On the south the Rocca di Garda and Mont' Èremo break the force of the *Ora*, and there is a semicircle of mountains in the distance to the east. These all look very fine in the afternoon light.

Garda was a walled-in town, and some parts of the walls still remain, with the gates leading through them. At the northern end there are three archways, and in the passage between them some Roman inscriptions found in the neighbourhood have been built into the wall. At the south end is another arch and a tower, and the main road runs between them.

Round the bay is a broad, irregular front on the lake, with a driving road and houses facing it, and the harbour is

GARDA

at present being much enlarged. There are a few interesting old houses.

The natives are mostly engaged in fishing, and seem a very friendly set, and as a rule quiet and orderly. But there seem to be always exceptions to this state of things, as we discovered one day when we walked down from San Vigilio, for Garda provided us with distractions.

On Sunday morning in the middle of March the usual quiet, orderly, little town was seething with excitement, and every man, woman, and child seemed to be on the lake front. It turned out to be the day for the general election throughout Italy, and although it was still early in the day, the adherents of Mussolini had been indulging in a free fight with those who upheld his opponent.

The "Podestà," apparently afraid that worse might follow, took time by the forelock, and read the Riot Act, so that he might have power to arrest the ringleaders if they attempted to renew the fight.

Great excitement still prevailed when a piercing shriek rent the air, and produced a momentary silence, followed by a rush of boys and men to the water's edge.

A woman had been washing the laundry in the lake near the breakwater as usual, and had seen an elderly man fall in, and it was she who had given the alarm.

Apparently he had been too wrathful to give heed to where he was walking, and had lost his footing on the slippery rocks and fallen into the water.

Willing hands soon dragged him up from the spot where he had sunk, fortunately without knocking his head against the rocks. On finding himself on dry land again, a pitiable dripping figure upheld by four supporters, his remark was: "It is good sometimes to have a bath; it clears the brain"; but it did not strengthen his legs, for it was all the rescuers could do to hold him up.

On our first arrival at Garda by steamer we had hired a rowing boat to transport us to San Vigilio, and in the course of conversation discovered that the younger of the two lads, although only seventeen, considered himself a man of much importance, for his father was dead and not only

LAGO DI GARDA

did he own the gaily painted boat that we were in, but also one of the chief inns of the place, and he poured out local information for our benefit.

The men here are mostly fishermen, and we found them a most polite and friendly crew; and as we had been seen photographing all around, they looked upon us with great interest, and seemed pleased that the English had come amongst them again, and greeted us as old friends. A smiling face is a good passport to Italians!

The Garda men own about 40 fishing boats, and a good haul sometimes consists of 3 cwt. of fish. The average weight of the trout caught here is from 4 to 6 lbs. each, but they run up to 10 lbs. Tradition says that the biggest ever caught was in July, 1897, off Torri, and that it was $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, 17 inches wide, and weighed 30 lbs.

A curious custom prevails in some of the hotels in Italy. These big fish are usually bought for the visitors, and cooked whole, and when brought into the dining-room on a huge platter the waiter carries it round the room and shows it at each table, so that the guests may see what a beauty it is before it is cut!

Of eels there is an abundant supply around Garda, and to catch these the fishermen go out by moonlight when there is not a ripple on the water, and *spear* them, as they can then be clearly seen through the transparent water.

Rowing boats are numerous as well as the fishing fleet, and afford a most enjoyable method of passing the time on a fine day in the later afternoon, when the colours on land and water are a joy to behold.

The most noticeable feature on approaching Garda from any direction is the *Rocca di Garda* (964 feet), for it looks as though the top has been sliced off and a few trees on the skyline had tried to hide the deficiency, but had utterly failed in their object.

The path up to it starts close to the railway station, and a steep mule-path goes up the western slope to Mont' Èremo (1,339 feet), whence another path leads across the dip to the flat, grassy plateau fringed with trees of the Rocca.



ROCCA DI GARDA



BAY OF GARDA

GARDA

From here is a bird's-eye view of the roofs of the houses in Garda and the streets, and of the whole bay to the Punta di San Vigilio, and across the lake to Salò, sheltered by the mountains behind. Further south is the Isola di Garda, with the narrow streak of water dividing it from the mainland, the Punta di Manerba, and the low hills near Sermione.

Looking due south the flat, eastern shore of the lake is spread out, showing the undulations and the many roads leading to Verona.

To the west and north-east are the low hills behind Garda, with villages and paths zigzagging in all directions, vine-covered slopes, and cultivated terraces. The village of Castione shows up on the hillside, and Caprino in the distance, overshadowed by Monte Baldo.

The neighbouring top of Mont' Èremo blocks the view to the east. This place will be noted later on.

The Rocca di Garda was once crowned by a castle, but all that remains now are a few ruins and caverns, in many cases connected by tunnels which honeycomb the rock. There are also some of recent construction with trenches, which might have been required in the late war, if the Allies had been forced back by Austria.

This old Castle of Rocca was the place in which the beautiful Queen Adelaide was held captive, and to explain how this happened we must go back to early history.

The feud between the Popes as heads of the Christian world and the temporal rulers of Italy seems to date from the time of the Emperor Otho the Great.

Pope John XII was one of the worst characters of his time, so the emperor called him to account for his crimes at Rome, and instead of appearing he fled for his life.

Therefore Pope Leo VIII was elected under the auspices of the emperor, who exacted an oath from all the Orders of Rome that they would never again elect a Pope without the consent of the Imperial ruler.

In after years the Popes turned the tables and said that no emperor could be elected without the consent of the Head of the Church, and the feud continues down to the present day, as the Popes imprison themselves in the Vatican, because

LAGO DI GARDA

they will not acknowledge the supremacy of the King of Italy.

Otho the Great died in 973 and was succeeded by his son Otho II.

Queen Adelaide was the daughter of Rodolph, sovereign of Burgundy, and at the age of sixteen was married to Lothaire, the virtuous son of a detestable father, Hugo, King of Italy.

At this time Italy was divided between a few powerful nobles, who were hereditary governors of provinces, and amongst these was Berengario II.

He headed a rebellion against Hugo, who ordered that his eyes should be put out, but Lothaire connived at his escape.

His subjects deposed Hugo, and elected Lothaire in his place and Berengario to assist him in the administration. But the latter aspired to royal honours, and gave Lothaire a poisoned cup to drink.

Berengario was then proclaimed King of Italy, and the "Iron Crown" of Monza was probably first used at his coronation.

He then wished to marry the beautiful, virtuous, and widowed Adelaide to his son Adelbert, and on her indignant refusal she was shut up at first in the palace of Pavia, and then removed to the fortress on the Rocca di Garda. She was imprisoned in the lowest dungeon and stripped of all her jewels and royal robes, and left to languish there for a year, with only a servant for companion.

Naturally she had many devoted adherents, who determined to work for her release, and among them was Azzo, Lord of Canossa, whose castle was in the neighbourhood, and a certain Brother Martino, a Benedictine monk.

The latter took up his abode in the caverns, and spent his time exploring all the tunnels in hopes of finding one leading to the castle dungeons, and in the course of months was successful.

The very day chosen for her liberation Berengario sent an armed escort to gain her consent to her marriage with his son, or if she refused to remove her to another prison, where death would be her portion.

PESCHIERA, VERONESE

In the dead of night Brother Martino and the Lord of Canossa entered her cell by a secret staircase and carried her to an iron door, through which they had to crawl, and then hurried her down to a waiting boat, and pulled across the bay.

Her escape was quickly discovered by Berengario's men, who started in pursuit, but the captain in his frantic hurry went too near the edge, and he and his horse were hurled backwards into the lake, and his men gave up the chase.

After she had rested in the Castle of Canossa, the Pope's emissaries were introduced into her presence, and promised in his name to give armed assistance to her cause ; and after this interview was over another was granted to the representative of Otho the Great, and under his escort she went to Pavia.

There the emperor at once fell in love with her, and they were married, and he crowned her himself in the cathedral of Pavia, and in course of time she became Empress of Germany, and on her death the Church of Rome ranked her among the saints for her virtues and piety.

PESCHIERA, VERONESE

From Garda we will now take the steamer to Peschiera, and return thence by the shore.

Peschiera is in the south-west corner of the Lago di Garda at the efflux of the Sarca, which in the south is called the Mincio, and forms the boundary between Lombardy and Venetia.

It is mentioned in documents dated 101 B.C. under its former name of Arilica, which was changed to Peschiera, because of the enormous number of fish found, in the eighth or ninth centuries, at the same time that the name of the lake was changed from Benaco to Garda.

In Roman times there was a school of navigation there. It is a fish-breeding place, and famous for its eels.

The commune comprises the villages of Paradiso, Broglie, Frassine, and San Benedetto.

LAGO DI GARDA

Much fighting has taken place in the neighbourhood, and in the tenth century it was strongly fortified, and in the thirteenth the Scaligeri built a castle here, which was destroyed, rebuilt, and destroyed a second time.

The existing massive bastions and fortifications were erected in 1500, when the Venetian Government ruled over the whole of the lake. In 1801 the French general under Napoleon won it by assault from the Austrians, who had constructed another fifteen forts, and it was wrested from the French by the Piedmontese in 1848, after a siege which lasted for seven weeks.

In 1859 Peschiera became one of the quadrilateral of famous forts, Verona, Mantova, and Legnago being the other three. The east gate has an inscription over it to beware of the Venetian Lion.

In the same year Austria issued her ultimatum against Piedmont, and found no friend in Europe to support her, and Cavour said when the Chamber rose, "This is the last Piedmontese Chamber; the next will be that of the Kingdom of Italy," and he proved a true prophet, for Victor Emanuele proclaimed the annexation of Lombardy to Piedmont.

The battle of Solferino is described under Desenzano. The battle-field can be reached from Peschiera through Pozzolengo.

From Solferino and Castiglione, Mèdole can be visited, and Titian's picture of "Christ in Glory," painted about 1554, can be seen. Titian's son and nephew were both *curés* at Mèdole at the parish church.

The water flowing out of the lake surrounds the town and turns it into an island, and the extensive barracks form three sides of a square in the island quarter of the town, and strong garrisons were kept there during the war, and the shopkeepers very much regret the fact that they are now withdrawn, for they made a good living out of them, and since it has become a quiet, sleepy little place.

At the harbour and quay the high walls (about 20 feet) of the bastions, with holes in them for the cannon, rise sheer out of the water; and these as well as the fortresses

LAZISE

look very curious, for they are quite flat on the top and covered with grass, as are also the sloping sides above the walls, and there are many of them spread over the country. They are quite out of date and were of no use during the Great War. The Porto Bresciana is the west gate, and the Porto Veronese the east gate, and the main road between Verona and Brescia runs right through Peschiera. The distances are Peschiera to Brescia 43·5, to Verona 24·6, and to Mantova 39·4 km.

The steamers from Desenzano do not touch here, as the two places are separated by the peninsula of Sermione, but those from Riva ply along the eastern shore down to Peschiera, where there are docks for them, and on the northward tour they touch at Gargnano.

In crossing from Garda to Sermione the force of the river can be distinctly felt, and in November it is sometimes impossible for a motor boat to land at Peschiera without fear of being dashed to pieces.

LAZISE

The road from Peschiera to Lazise keeps at first at some little distance from the lake, and goes through flat undulating, fertile country, for this south-east corner is of quite a different character to the rest of the lake, the hills being low and far back.

Lazise is about 8 km. to the north of Peschiera, on the east bank, opposite the widest part about 17 km., where the lake looks like an inland sea, and it was at one time an important commercial centre.

The Romans were in this part, and the low, square tower attached to the cemetery is said to date from that period.

The magnificent castle here is the main attraction, with the walls which surrounded the old town. They were very fine; the north side has five towers at intervals, all surrounded by a moat, which has since been filled in.

The fortifications date from A.D. 1014. In the fifteenth

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century the Venetians took possession of it, and closed all the gates except the east fortified tower.

In 1439 the place was bombarded with stone balls, which did much damage, and at the present day both the walls and towers seem in a precarious condition.

The castle stands in a large park, with well-grown trees, looking more like an English one ; but the gravel paths are now moss grown, giving a neglected, deserted look to it.

The tall middle tower of red brick is kept in repair, and visitors are allowed to ascend to the top of it. From there to the north the Punta Vigilio, Rocca di Garda, and the Monte Baldo range can be seen, while at the foot of the tower the village, enclosed by its old walls, is laid open to inspection. This includes the port and the two church towers.

To the south towards Peschiera the park and flat country around, with the lake and reeds, can be seen, while to the west, the long, low, marshy peninsula of Sermione is in sight.

HISTORY OF LAZISE CASTLE

The splendid castle is a square, battlemented block with massive towers, walls, and feudal keep, and to the south was protected first by a drawbridge, after which at intervals were four more arches, which could be barricaded.

During the Venetian Republic the castle was inhabited by the "Castellani," and after the fall of the Republic it passed into the hands of the French, who used it as a gunpowder factory ; thence it went to the Austrians, who sold it for 1,500 lire to a speculator, who destroyed all the habitable part and sold the stones as building material.

The next owner even sold the staircases in the four corner towers, and after that, in 1880, it was bought by Conte Buri, who restored it to some extent, and built a villa by the side of it and filled in the castle port and made a garden of it.

It is now in the hands of Giovanni di Bernini.

The main port was made by the Venetian Republic, while

HISTORY OF LAZISE CASTLE

Lazise was in their hands, and they forced all the goods of the country-side to be landed there, so that the dues for entering it would be in their hands.

The square, battlemented tower at its entrance is now very much out of the perpendicular, and the adjoining custom house has been pulled down as it was a source of danger. Close by here is the war memorial, which has taken the form of a double row of palm trees along the little promenade, each tree bearing the name of a local man who fell in the Great War (1914-1918).

There are ancient interesting churches hidden among the villages around Lazise, and the campanile of the parish church is a good specimen of the Italian Gothic style.

The country at the back consists of low, flat hills, covered with terraces, on which grow chestnut and fruit trees, but there is little protection from the wind. There are many villas belonging to the Veronese aristocracy along this part of the lake shore.

On leaving Lazise the Villa Pergolana is noted, a fine building resembling a castle, with two end towers and one in the middle, belonging to the Conte Cavazocca of Verona. It is surrounded by fine trees close to the water's edge. In the grounds is a chapel to the Madonna della Pergolana, with pictures by Brusasorzi.

The steamer does not stop at the next little village of *Cisano*, where there is a small church of the eighth century badly restored in 1854. It belonged to the Benedictine monks, and there are some reliefs on the outside wall and some paintings inside. It has a low, square tower with an almost flat top, and is dedicated to San Giuliano.

Above Cisano, on the top of the hill, is the village of Colmasino. Ancient towers with battlements abound in the neighbourhood.

The steamers stop at the next village of Bardolino, and also the local train running between Garda and Affi, where the short line from Caprino joins it.

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BARDOLINO

Bardolino is 3·4 km. from Garda, 28·7 from Verona, and 14·4 from Peschiera.

It is a small village which was founded by the Lombards, with a few remains of the old city walls and a tower.

Two old towers face one another at the back of the village ; the one adjoining a house is that of the Madonna della Neve, and the other belongs to the Church of San Severo, built by the Lombards in the seventh century, and has some old sculptures and frescoes. It is not used now and is a national monument.

The Roman remains found here have been removed to the Museum at Verona.

The modern parish Church of San Sebastiano of 1842 is built in the form of a Roman basilica. In it is an old picture by Marco Mercola of Verona, painted about a hundred years before the church was built. There is a good deal of white, and nothing tawdry about it.

Bardolino has a straight promenade between Punta Bottagisio on the north and Punta delle Foraci on the south, making two right angles. Close to the small, square harbour inside the mole at the south end is a war memorial of pink marble of rather unusual form, being an obelisk with two soldiers in bronze, the one supporting his mortally wounded comrade, while he carves with his dagger the words "*Pro Patria*" on the obelisk. At each corner of the low surrounding wall is a real shell case.

Maria Luigia of Austria and Queen of Napoleon I slept at the Palazzo Forni ; also Ferdinando IV, King of Naples, and Alexander I, Czar of Russia, in 1822.

The main road from Bardolino to Garda is at a little distance from the lake, and the whole district is famous for the flavour and sweetness of its fruit and for its luscious wine. Peaches and pears are sent to places at some distance.

The vine stems, instead of being grown in a vertical position, are slanting towards the sun, so that the upper part does not throw a shadow upon the lower, and all have an equal chance of ripening.

BARDOLINO

There are grassy terraces up on the hillsides, which lie back from the lake here, and the fruit trees are sheltered by them from the east wind, while the Rocca di Garda, Monte Luppia, and the Punta di San Vigilio shelter them from the north, and they are fully exposed to the sun's rays from the south and west.

In the marshy ground along the shore tall reeds grow, and these are bent into the shape of a bow when being dried, and form the supports for awnings over rowing boats or market carts, to keep off the sun's hot rays in summer.

This same ground is alive with wild fowl, which can always be seen when alarmed by a passing steamer.

The hills rise as the Rocca di Garda is approached, and from the south side there is a better view of Sant' Èremo (1,030 feet), which adjoins the former with only a dip in the ground between them. The crest of Èremo is more pointed than that of its neighbour, is topped with cypress trees, and is 50 feet higher.

On it is the very large *Convento dei Camaldolesi*, where men visitors are treated with the greatest attention.

The Rocca di Garda and Èremo go back to Roman times, when they were looked upon as one and the fortress there was considered impregnable, and Carlomagno raised Garda to the rank of a county in 774.

The Rocca changed hands many times, and in the middle of the sixteenth century the castle was pulled down by the Venetians, and the eastern part of the hill was conceded to the Camaldolesi, who in 1665 pulled down the remains of the three towers, erected the *Convento dei Camaldolesi* on the site, and gave the name of Èremo to the hill, leaving the plateau alone to bear that of the Rocca.

After the suppression of the monasteries in 1811 Èremo passed into the possession of Conte Danese Buri, and his son constructed a carriage road up to it from Bardolino. A good but steep mule-path leads up to it from Garda in half an hour, starting from behind the Terminus Hotel and passing the Roccolo della Rocca. At the foot of the Rocca is the parish Church of San Pietro used by the Camaldolesi during the building of the monastery.

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While the monks were in possession men visitors were welcomed there and treated with courtesy. The exclusion of women rankled in the mind of a noble Marchesa who had a house near by, as she very much wished to see the inside of that carefully walled-in domain, and did not see why she should be denied the privilege because she was a woman.

Her curiosity overcame her discretion, and she had her hair cut short and, dressed as a man, she demanded admittance to the monastery, and was shown through the buildings with the customary politeness of the monks. Her disguise was not penetrated, and she departed without being identified, but her escapade leaked out, as such things will, and the Pope promptly excommunicated her.

When the Rocca di Garda is reached both road and railway line have been blasted out of the lower slopes, leaving a hideous, white, scarred surface for about forty feet in height; above that are slopes with olive trees, from which the rock rises almost perpendicular, and looks most imposing.

The Terminus Hotel at Garda is not of the cosmopolitan type, but for people of simple tastes and not too well-filled purses it is quite a possibility, and Garda is a good centre for excursions inland.

TRENTO (626 feet)

From Garda we will now return to Trento and come back again by the Vall' Adige. The whole of the northern end of the Lago di Garda is in the province of Trento.

The town of the same name was formerly the wealthiest and most important one in the Austrian Tirol, and is surrounded by imposing groups of rocks. It has many towers, dilapidated castles, palaces of marble, and large houses, which vie with those of Milano and Verona. It used to thrive on the silk industry.

The Castello del Buon Consiglio was the residence of the prince-bishops and is a curious building with some good frescoes. The bishops lost their temporal power in 1802. The castello has been turned into fortified barracks.

TRENTO TO ROVEREDO

The Duomo, begun in the eleventh century, is circular, with two domes of Romanesque architecture. It was over 300 years in building.

The Church of Santa Maria Maggiore was the assembly place for the famous Council of Trent (1545-1563). It contains a fine organ.

The ancient bed of the Adige River used to cut right across the town, but its course was altered by making a new bed outside the town, and letting the old one dry up.

Close to Trento, in the middle of the valley, a rock stands up, called Dos Trento or La Verruca, from which is a beautiful view, but it is difficult to obtain permission to visit it, as in 1857 it was strongly fortified.

Two important roads meet here, the one from Riva sul Garda by the Val Sarca, or Sarche, and that from Venice through Padua and Bassano by the Val Sugana.

The two most interesting mountain excursions to the south-west are to the Monte Bondone (7,412 feet) and the Orto d'Abramo (7,193 feet), which may be considered a northern prolongation of Monte Baldo, as they are only divided from it by the deep cutting through which runs the road between Mori and Torbole.

The lower part of the Vall' Adige is called the Val Lagarina.

TRENTO TO ROVEREDO

Below Trento both road and rail are on the eastern side of the river, and the first village of any size is *Matarello* (647 feet), at the opening of Valsorda, from which is a narrow road, to the east, passing the Lago di Caldonazzo to Levico in Val Sugana.

At a distance of 5 km. below Matarello is a defile, formed by the bases of Monte Scanupia and Orto d'Abramo, which stretches from the hamlet of *Aquaviva* to *Calliano*. At the latter is a picture in the parish church recalling the victory of the people of Trento over the Venetians under Sanseverino.

To the east is the opening to Val Folgaria, where the

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people of Roveredo seek coolness in the summer, and another pleasant path leads from here into Val Sugana.

Near here was one of the castles of the Castelbarco family, who owned all the property in this part and kept up independent state.

From Calliano the valley bends to the west until *Volano* is reached, whence it turns southward to Roveredo, which is in almost a line with Riva, due east of it.

Roveredo made a very good thing out of the silk industry until the disease in the silkworm appeared. The first spinning mill is said to have been erected by a Venetian in 1548, and there were a number of large "Filande" in which the cocoons were unwound, and of "Filatoje" where the raw silk was spun. Southern fruits grow, and excellent red wine is made in the neighbourhood. The sympathies of the natives of Roveredo were always with the Italians, so that now they will be pleased to be united to that country. There is an old castello in the Piazza del Podesta.

ROVEREDO TO SAN AMBROGIO

Both road and rail keep to the eastern side of the Adige River nearly all the way to Verona. Just opposite Roveredo on the western bank is the village of *Isera*, which is credited with producing the best wine in the *Venèzia Tridentina*. It has a fine waterfall.

A little to the south, on the east bank, is *Lizzana*, where Dante visited the castle about 1302.

The next place at the wide part of the river-bed is *Mori*, which is the railway terminus from Riva and Arco. It is noted for its asparagus.

Nearly opposite, on the eastern bank, is *San Marco*, around which are huge blocks of rocks in great confusion for more than two kilomètres, as the result of a huge landslide which devastated the countryside in 833 and blocked the river, so that the bed of it at Verona was left dry for several days. Dante described it in his "Inferno."

At *Serravalle* the valley contracts and forms a defile ;

EXCURSIONS IN THE MONTE BALDO DISTRICT

the river can be crossed and a road leads up to *Brentonico* (2,261 feet), which was a village picturesquely placed on a spur of the lower slope of Monte Baldo. It was destroyed during the Great War, but a path goes up from there to Monte Altissimo di Nago. Another cart-road starts from Mori through *Besagno* to the same height, as it was made by the troops to enable them to get the guns and ammunition to their quarters on the top of the mountain on May 24, 1915. It was a target for artillery fire from Monte Brione.

The valley opens out again before Ala is reached, a village once celebrated for its velvet manufactories.

At the village of *Avio* there is a ferry, and the river can be crossed and the glen called Val Aviana visited ; it is the deepest of the ravines between the crags of Monte Baldo. There was here another castle of the Count Castelbarco, in a well-preserved condition.

Borghetto was the last village on the Austrian frontier, while *Peri* used to be the first on the Italian side. The river can be also crossed here, and a path taken which leads to the Madonna della Corona and Spiazzi, but the best view of it is obtained by ascending from Brentonico. The driving road to it will be described presently.

The village of *Ceraino* is opposite Rivoli, which is a plateau surrounded by a complete semicircle of hills. At Ceraino the road enters a rocky defile called the *Chiusa di Verona*, where the rocks have been blasted to make room for the road and railway line, as the river occupied the whole of the space. It was a most important military position on the way to Verona, and whoever held that town possessed the key to Northern Italy. At *Volargne* (420 feet) the defile ends and the valley widens.

At *Sant' Ambrogio di Valpolicella* the branch roads from Garda and Caprino join the main one to Verona.

EXCURSIONS IN THE MONTE BALDO DISTRICT

From Sant' Ambrogio di Valpolicella the road and railway cross the Adige, and then turn northwards up the valley

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between the hills behind Garda and Èremo, and the plateau on which Rivoli is situated, and a fairly good driving road leads to *Caprino Veronese*, the terminus of the local railway line to Affi.

Caprino is 8.5 km. from Garda and 3.5 km. from Costermano, where the driving road from Bardolina joins it. The Albergo Leone is a rather primitive inn, and Caprino seems to be the market town for all the villages round about, even as far as San Vigilio; and in the summer there are paths over the mountains to the north of Monte Luppia to Torri del Benaco, and another by Monte Belpo to San Zeno and the village of Villanova on the slopes above Lago di Garda.

More important than this, Caprino is the starting-point for the higher mountain excursions.

From Caprino (885 feet) a fairly steep, narrow road between walls and hedges rises on the fertile slopes of Monte Baldo, with at first a good view back, but it afterwards becomes more limited. Higher up cultivation ceases for a time, and then on the bare, rocky mountain the road widens out again, and a good view is obtained over the Lago di Garda, Sermione, Desenzano to the south, and to the east over the mountains.

It is a steep gradient with many zigzags up to *Spiazzi* (9 km. from Caprino), which is a small village and summer resort, with simple hotels and beautiful views.

LA MADONNA DELLA CORONA

This pilgrimage sanctuary chapel stands at an elevation of 2,540 feet on the face of a perpendicular precipice in a deep recess of Monte Baldo, below the plateau on which is Spiazzi (2,828 feet).

According to the legend after the taking of Rhodes by the Turks in 1522, a bright light was repeatedly seen by night on this wall of rock. Some shepherds were let down by ropes to investigate from above, and on the spot where the light had been seen there was a miraculous image of the Madonna, which had been previously kept in a church at

LA MADONNA DELLA CORONA

Rhodes. It was carefully conveyed to a neighbouring church, but refused to stop there, and was always found again on the original spot.

So in spite of the difficulties the natives hewed out a hollow place in the face of the precipice, and it was consecrated as a chapel, the most famous and curious of its kind.

To reach it a pathway was made by cutting 676 steps in the rock from the plateau above, and it is a half hour's walk from there. The Dosso di Croce (3,220 feet) and the Costabella can be ascended on foot from Spiazzi.

The lake is now out of sight and the road goes across sloping fields with a precipice on the east side, through the peaks of which there are occasional glimpses of the Adige, about 3,500 feet below.

At *Fraine di Sopra* there is a small group of houses, from which the road descends into a green, fertile spot, in which are the numerous villages composing the commune of Ferrara di Monte Baldo, which is a two hours' drive with a pair of horses from Caprino-Veronesi.

The most important of these is the village of *Ferrara di Monte Baldo*, with a large church at the top of a long flight of steps, a municipio, and some very simple inns. Since the war a beautiful track has been laid out, but it is not suitable for cars at the present time.

From Ferrara, Monte Maggiore can easily be ascended on foot in about four hours, and there are no dangerous places. The view from here is the most glorious one in this part, embracing the mountain peaks from Monte Rosa to the Adriatic.

Leaving Ferrara di Monte Baldo on foot, the road takes a steep rise, and the landscape is that of the high mountains, with scrub and Alpine flora.

About 6 km. from Ferrara di Monte Baldo is Cavallo di Novezza (4,808 feet), a small pass around which are the remains of entrenchments and barbed wire entanglements. Here the old Austrian frontier cut across the path east and west, and 2 km. of wall built across the mountain still exists.

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The road continues to rise, giving magnificent views to Monte Pasubio, whence it passes the Malga Artillon (5,127 feet), leaves the Campiona path, and keeps still higher, then drops to the *Bocca di Navene* (4,666 feet), and winds under the peaks of Monte Altissimo di Nago (6,815 feet). From here a cart-track used by lorries during the war winds up with endless zigzags to the very top of Monte Altissimo, where some of our English "Tommies" were during the war.

From here the track goes down with many windings to the Cappella di San Valentina (4,394 feet) approximately 23 km., thence to the Cappella di San Giacomo (3,825 feet) and the villages of Fontechel (2,200 feet) and Brentonico, about 7 km. distant, both of which were destroyed during the war, thence to Mori by Bessagnao.

GARDA TO VERONA

We have now finished the main exploration of the Lago di Garda, and will leave it by the local railway line from the little town of Garda by Affi, where we must change trains.

There was a wait of an hour and a half, so we adjourned to the Terminus Hotel, where a most obliging hotelier provided good coffee and biscuits, and we whiled away the time as best we could, as the rain had begun again.

The railway terminus is opposite both landing stage and hotel, the three making a triangle ; so as we saw the engine driver getting up steam and making up a train we went to take our tickets. These were not yet to be obtained, for the stationmaster and his staff of four were all playing bowls on the station platform and meant to finish their game before despatching that train.

On being asked if there were a porter to fetch our suitcases from the hotel, the reply was, " You can ask the engine driver ; he will do it." But the engine driver did not see the force of doing so ; probably he was jealous of the other men who were enjoying their game.

We walked back to the hotel and waited impatiently.

GARDA TO VERONA

Five minutes before the train was due to start we again approached the stationmaster, who finished his game and shouted for a "Facchino." No one answered his summons, so he suggested to a man lounging near that he should fetch the hand-baggage, but evidently that man did not want to earn an honest penny and made no move.

In the meantime we managed to obtain some tickets, so that was something to the good, and wondered what was to be the next move, while we watched a man with a band round his cap washing his hands with water obtained from the engine, which the engine driver poured steaming hot over him, to our great amazement. We wondered if the next proceeding would be to render him "First Aid."

However, he seemed to be none the worse for it, and walked leisurely away in the direction of the hotel, and reappeared with the two suit-cases, greatly to our relief, and placed them in the second-class compartment, which we had to ourselves, the other half-dozen passengers being in the third-class.

Every one being aboard the stationmaster allowed the train to start. The ticket collector soon appeared, and, lo and behold, it was our porter who had at last condescended to fetch our luggage.

He now showed quite a friendly interest in us, and gave all the information in his power about the surrounding country.

The road and rail go round the base of the Rocca di Garda, the train being only about ten feet above the water and twenty feet below the driving road, through the pleasant vineyards and fruit trees, white with blossom in the lovely springtime.

The train stops at the station at the back of the town of Bardolino, and instead of continuing southwards to Lazise, it follows a westerly direction, always drawing nearer to the hills, crosses a wide, fertile, gentle slope, turns suddenly northward again, and approaches close to the hills, which end abruptly, with a rocky, jagged top, at the foot of which is Affi, 25.6 km. from Verona.

Here our obliging conductor reappeared and told us that

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we must alight, and he led the way with our suit-cases, and placed them in the train which came in alongside from Caprino, and wished us a pleasant journey to Verona. From here we take a farewell look of Monte Pizzocolo and Monte Baldo.

AFFI TO VERONA

We now leave the purlieus of the Lago di Garda, pass through the Val Tasso, and at Sega di Cavajon enter the Vall' Adige, cross the river, and rejoin the main road on the other side of the railway from Trento at Sant' Ambrogio di Valpolicella.

Looking northwards, the low humps of the mountains, purple in the setting sun, seem almost to close in the valley, with the river winding in and out like a ribbon.

The road and rail pass under the main railway line, and big quarries with huge boulders of stone lying about are close up to the line on the north-east, and then follows a long, low plateau with trees on the top, and the two railway lines are close together at *Domegliara*.

All the interest in this route lies to the north-east, where the mountains are lofty, with five valleys running up into them, holding out every inducement to those wishing to explore.

From *Domegliara* a minor road and the railway run due east, fairly close to the base of the mountains across a broad, level plain, on which the fruit trees in March were in full bloom. To the south a narrow road leads to the village of *Ospedaletto*, with a noticeable square church tower high up on the slope.

The village of *Gargagnago* is noted by the rows of cypress trees on the low hills, and a fine view is obtained from there of the mountains on the north-east and the valley "Il Progno."

The south side of this Val Policella is one vast plain, covered with acres of mulberry trees, with vines trained from one tree to another in a most artistic manner, and interspersed with fruit trees.

THE SILKWORM INDUSTRY

The big village *Incariano San Pietro* lies at the eastern entrance of "Il Progno."

Near here, in the foreground close to the line, were some low mounds with caverns, in which were workmen dressing stone which had been obtained from the neighbouring quarries.

Although both road and rail go from west to south-east in the main, it is remarkable the number of semicircular curves that are made with the two constantly crossing one another.

A huge curve is made to reach the old village of *San Floriano*, with a quaint, square, church tower and red brick top section to it, and clock, the double windows being divided by small columns. This church adjoins the railway line on the south side.

The ground on the south side of the valley begins to rise, and many villages are seen on the hillocks, and near by the big, unfinished Church of Pedemonte.

This upland region between the spurs of Monti Lessini called the Val Policella, noted for its good wine, is here left behind with regret, and another semicircular curve leads to the station of *Negra*.

The hills get lower and lower, the road crosses the line again to a large private house with two towers, in the midst of fine grounds, then road and rail cross and recross, houses become frequent, and factory chimneys appear.

After going through a tunnel the Adige, which has been lost to sight for a long time, comes into view, with the suburbs of Verona, through which a very long, straight road leads to the *Porta San Giorgio*, the northern railway station of Verona, outside the city gates.

THE SILKWORM INDUSTRY

Before leaving this part of the country it might be as well to account for the acres and acres of mulberry trees which occupy the land around Verona, and to do this we must take a look at the silk industry, which was carried on in

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Italy for hundreds of years, and from which it spread throughout Europe.

Silk has been known for 3,000 or 4,000 years, and in the third century the Chinese were making garments of it and they are still the largest producers.

The natural thread is much finer than a human hair and will stretch five or six inches in a yard and bear a weight of twelve to sixteen ounces, and to make it thick enough for the required purposes several of them are twined together.

The best silkworm moth is the *Bombyx mori*, so called because the caterpillar feeds on the *Morus alba*, or Chinese white mulberry tree ; it feeds voraciously and manufactures the *fibroin* and *serecin* which become the silk fibre. The female lays a very large number of eggs and 40,000 weigh about an ounce ; they are pink at first and then dark grey, and are hatched only once a year. The larva, or caterpillar, eats the leaves on which it is placed, and in a few days grows too big for its skin. It then stops until a new one is formed, when it wriggles backwards out of the old and begins to eat again, and this it does four times in six weeks and will then measure three inches and weigh about the ninth part of an ounce ; after which it begins to spin the web or cocoon in which it conceals itself.

The fibroin fluid is formed and stored in a double, long twisted tube in the length of the caterpillar's body and forms the case or "cocoon."

The caterpillar when full grown ceases to feed, becomes restless, and its skin, becoming semi-transparent and emitting a little of the fibroin dries and it hangs on by it. By waving its head and moving its body round, it draws out a minute double-twisted thread held together by serecin, or silk gum, and this forms a covered case, the cocoon. This is not wound in circular form but as a double spiral loop, and continues till all the fibroin is used up.

This can afterwards be pulled out into a continuous thread of 500 to 1,300 yards long.

The enclosed chrysalis hibernates inside the cocoon, grows wings, and when ready breaks out of the casing it

THE SILKWORM INDUSTRY

has made ; the wings dry and it becomes a moth, but only lives a very few hours.

The best of all silk comes from the caterpillar which feeds on mulberry leaves. Trees three or four years old which get plenty of sunshine and fresh air and grow large, succulent leaves are the ones required ; so there must be a succession of trees planted for the purpose—so many new ones each year—and fed with plenty of rich manure.

Each acre of land will nourish five hundred trees, each of which should produce twenty to thirty pounds of leaves in the course of the spring, and twenty pounds will feed a hundred silkworms, who together spin about one pound of silk, which when cleaned and spun yields one to two ounces of best silk, which when twisted into sewing silk is about half the value of the other.

A silkworm farm has a dry, airy room fitted up with shallow trays on a wooden stand away from the walls, reaching up nearly to the ceiling, each one a little smaller than the other, so if the caterpillar falls off he goes on to the tray below.

As soon as the mulberry leaves are open, the young leaves are gathered for the newly hatched caterpillars to feed upon ; and while they are small and delicate they require much attention, and the breeders must get up in the night to look after and feed them.

Fresh leaves are put upon the well-washed trays and the caterpillars removed to them, for the greatest cleanliness is necessary. By the end of the caterpillar season the trees have been stripped of all their leaves, and the scenery changes to its winter aspect ; but, fortunately, another set of leaves will appear during the early summer and the vines trained from tree to tree fill up the gaps.

In the spring most of the houses are busy with the silkworm culture, which occupies every available room in the house, and at small “ osterias ” if a traveller asks for a bedroom for the night he will be told that there is not one available, as they are all occupied by the silkworms !

The owners of the properties which are let for silkworm farms generally visit them in the spring to see how things

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are going for themselves, as usually they share in the produce of the farm.

At Lugano, Como, and other places the cocoons are put into hot water, cleaned, unwound, and stretched out and wound on reels ready for doubling.

Near Riva-sul-Garda and in the Veronese province, at the present day, the cocoons are packed in sacks and sent to Milan to be prepared, and are there woven into Milanese silk, which is strong and wears well.

In the early days the eggs were brought from Japan, which was a most dangerous proceeding, as they suffered so much in coming through the Tropics; so when the facilities existed for doing so they were brought overland, thus avoiding the long sea voyage.

The *Bombyx mori* caterpillar, which breeds only once a year, used to be thought the only one worth cultivating, but now there are many other varieties. The eggs are hatched in the spring, and a cold winter followed by a genial spring is the best.

Indian tusser silk is obtained from the cocoons of the wild tusser moth which feeds on oak and other trees in the jungles of Central and Southern India. These contain tannin, which has to be got rid of before the silk can be dyed.

The *Antheræa Yama-mei* moth of Japan is six inches across the wings, and the cocoon is as large as a pigeon's egg and the silk fine and lustrous.

The *Antheræa pernyi* is Chinese; it feeds upon oak trees and produces much valuable silk.

The *Anaphe* of Central Africa works quickly, combine into groups, and spin a common nest, which is filled with cocoons. The empty nests are collected when the moths have flown away, sent to the spinning mills, and made into spun silk thread.

China seems to be the original home of silk, and it is mentioned 2500 B.C. The empress was the first to cultivate the silkworm and was the inventor of the loom for weaving patterned silk.

The Chinese kept the secret of its origin till A.D. 300, when a Japanese secret mission obtained silkworms and took

THE SILKWORM INDUSTRY

four Chinese girls to Japan to teach them how to weave ; the process was also known in Egypt and India.

Weaving is prehistoric and consists of two sets of threads crossing at right angles, in olden days the intersection being done by hand, and in modern days by machinery, with about eighty threads of warp to an inch, and the pattern or ornamentation is made by the wefting. For this the Egyptians used flax, the Indians cotton, the pastoral tribes wool, while the Chinese had the monopoly of silk.

It is probable that the Chinese originated the first contrivance for lifting up the warp by means of treadles to insert the weft, and they did a large export trade in finely woven webs.

Silk weaving in Italy is said to have been introduced in the twelfth century to Venice and other parts by Saracenic craftsmen. Many of these may have been taken as prisoners, and from the tenth to the fourteenth century there were many settlements of compulsory or voluntary workers in the finer textile arts. Palermo and Venice became famous for the costly silk and gold thread materials made in the country, where the new weaving industry flourished.

For three centuries Italy kept the secrets of sericulture to itself, as the Chinese had done before, and until the fourteenth century they were never excelled in design, colour, or technique, and their products were sought for by the rest of Europe. The secrecy they were able to maintain shows what the isolation of the countries was in the Middle Ages.

In France the first mention of it is in 1640, when a few Italian weavers set up a loom and started weaving in the neighbourhood of Lyons, and it was carried on there by Italians for 200 years.

At the end of the seventeenth century the persecuted French silk-weavers took refuge in England, and in spite of great opposition from English silk-weavers they settled in various parts, especially in Canterbury and Spitalfields.

The disease among the silkworms was the cause of the industry dying out in many parts of Italy, which had been famous for its production.

LAGO DI GARDA

To make real silk look shiny the dyers increase the weight by adulterating it with liquid muriate of tin, sometimes to such an extent that twelve ounces of silk threads that have been boiled to purify them will weigh eighty ounces when adulterated, and consequently will not stand wear and tear, so they are only made to sell.

Spun silk made from the cocoons themselves is a stronger and better thread than any made by artificial means, and warps can be made from it; it is not strong enough for reeling, but will do for spinning into good thread. China, Japan and India still produce the best real silk, France and England the best silk textiles, and Germany the cheaper kinds.

America produces a great deal of artificial silk and is a buyer of raw real silk, but does not export the manufactured product.

The silkworm disease has been a very serious drawback for Europe, and one of Pasteur's first studies was on this subject; this led to further study of others of a kindred nature, and was the basis of much of our present knowledge of disease germs.

VERONA

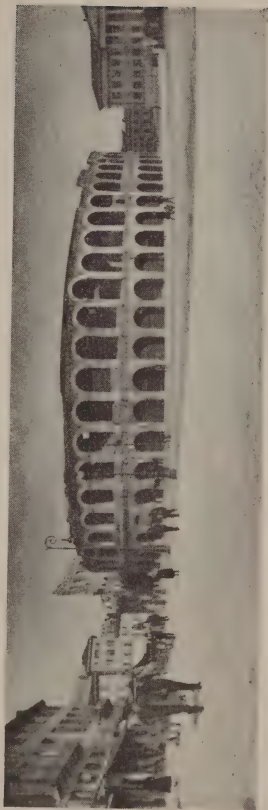
The tourist who has not much time at his disposal should not miss an opportunity to see some of the beauties which exist in this old-world town, and even two days, if more cannot be spared, will enable him to see most of the notable buildings and palaces of the great families who had their country houses on the Lago di Garda and took part in all the wars which were fought in the neighbourhood.

Verona was made a Roman colony in 89 B.C., and Theodoric lived in the Castle of San Pietro, which was on the north-east bank of the Adige.

It suffered much during the fights between Guelphs and Ghibellines, but in 1260 Mastino I della Scala, a Ghibelline, was elected podestà, and under his beneficent rule Verona had a glorious time. It remained in the hands of this family for some generations, although nearly each one put his



PONTE PIETRA AND ROMAN REMAINS, VERONA



ANFITEATRO, VERONA

VERONA

predecessor to death, until in 1387 the last one was expelled by Gian Visconti, Lord of Milan.

Through the widow of Antonio, after the death of her son in 1392, the last of the Scaligeri, Verona passed to the Venetians and remained subject to them until the Republic came to an end.

Verona produced many men of note, and as we shall come across their work in going through the town a brief notice of them here may help to make things clear.

Verona was the birthplace of Fra Giocondo (1435-1514), one of the most famous of architects, as well as the home of Sanmicheli (1484-1559), another of the same profession with great artistic skill in uniting Ionic beauty with military strength.

It was the custom to beautify the Veronese palaces with paintings, and the chief masters of this branch of art were the following: In the fourteenth century Alicheiri; in the fifteenth century Vittore Pisano and Liberale da Verona, miniature painters; the two Morones, father and son; Paolo Cavazzola (1486-1522). In sculpture Verona had also noted sons.

Francesco Morone (1473-1529) was born and died at Verona, and his paintings show deep religious feeling and marvellous sweetness, with rich colouring.

Girolamo dai Libri (1474-1555) was a great friend and fellow-worker with Morone, noted as a miniature painter, and his faces show a glad serenity and poetic feeling.

Paolo Morando Cavazzola treats his subject with broad, vigorous drawing, but his brilliant colouring is cold and hard; he is sometimes called the Veronese Raphael. He worked at the same period as dai Libri.

The River Adige, the second longest in Italy, on which Verona is built, makes a huge bend and almost surrounds the old part of the town, which is triangular with a rounded apex to the north-east, while the base line goes from the Ponte Scaligero and Castelvechio by the Piazza Vittorio Emanuele and the Via Pallone to Ponte Aleardi.

There are three railway stations: the main line one from

LAGO DI GARDA

Milan and Venice in the south-west, outside the city walls, and the entrance is by the Ponte Nuova and up the Corso Vittorio Emanuele ; another at the Porta Vescovo on the east ; and the local station of the Caprino-Garda line is on the north, where the river is crossed by the Ponte Garibaldi.

Besides the two bridges mentioned above there are four others—Ponte Umberto and the Ponte Pietra in the north-east, the Ponte Navi and Ponte Aleardi on the east, and the Ponte Scaligero in the north-west. There are other entrances to the city by the Porta San Zeno and Porta Palio on the west, the Porta Vittoria on the east, and the Porta di Pra and Porta dei Borsari in the town.

Verona has always been a strongly fortified town, and the massive walls to the north-east on the high ground commanding the city, built by Sanmicheli in 1527, are still in perfect preservation, and above these the bastions and forts can be seen distinctly on the skyline, gleaming white when they catch the sun. Those in other parts still exist.

A good starting-point for a walk through the town is the western end of the *Corso Cavour*, in which neighbourhood some of the hotels are situated, to the Piazza dell' Erbe.

On the right hand side will be found the Palazzo Balladoro ; the Palazzo Bevilacqua built by Sanmicheli, and now used as a technical institute ; the Banca d'Italia with balconies and paintings.

On the left hand side are the Palazzo Montarone ; the Palazzo Canossa built in 1530, the work of Sanmicheli, with a fine view over the river and loggia ; the Palazzo Portalupi ; and the Casa Pozzoni, formerly the Medici, with fine Gothic windows.

Beyond this the *Porta Borsari* is reached. It is one of the famous Roman gateways, and was erected in A.D. 265 and consists of a wall of two rounded arches over the main road, with two tiers of six small, shallow, round-headed arches built into the houses on either side, which are arcaded.

Passing through this the road narrows, and in the Corso Porta Borsari many of the housekeeping shops will be found.



PORTA DI BRA, VERONA



PORTA DEI BORSARI, VERONA

VERONA

The trams go along this route into the *Piazza delle Erbe*, which was the ancient Forum, and is now the fruit and vegetable market, presenting a strange appearance, as every stall has a huge white umbrella tent over it, keeping off both sun and rain. In the centre of the piazza is the "Tribuna," a canopy supported by four columns, which was the ancient seat of judgment. "La Fontana," dating from the third century, has a statue of "La Madonna di Verona" on it, which is probably of Roman times, but it is now put to utilitarian purposes, such as washing fish and vegetables.

The house at the west corner of Via Pellicciai, the *Casa dei Mercanti*, dates from 1301, and was erected by Alberto della Scala, and is now the commercial court.

Opposite to the east is the *Torre del Gardello*, 273 feet high and built in 1370, from which is a fine view.

A bronze figure has been recently erected in the Piazza delle Erbe to the memory of sixty war victims killed by a bomb.

The narrow street by the side of the tower leads to the *Piazza dei Signori*. In the north-east corner is the fine *Palazzo del Consiglio*, or La Loggia, built by Fra Giocondo in 1467 as the old town hall; it is a very fine building in early Renaissance style, with sculptured figures on the coping of the roof. On the south-east is the *Prefettura*, formerly the residence of the Scaligeri; the portal is by Sanmicheli. There is a monument to Dante in the Piazza dei Signori, who was banished from Florence in 1393 and spent the first part of his exile in Verona.

Beyond the Prefettura, down the side street, are the magnificent *Tombs of the Scaligeri* family, outside the little Chapel of Santa Maria Antica with a Romanesque campanile.

That of Mastino II is in one corner, with a very tall, ornate canopy, and that of Cansignorio in the other, both enclosed in very handsome railings. Built into the chapel wall is that of Cangrande I, the best of all the Scaligeri, with an equestrian statue of him as a young man in all his strength and glory, and the principal events of his life are in miniature on the sarcophagus. The Scaligeri were not of noble birth and adopted a ladder for their coat of arms;

LAGO DI GARDA

hence the name della Scala. The other tomb near the chapel wall is that of Giovanni Scaligero, with a recumbent figure of himself on the top. The plainest tomb of all is that of Mastino I, who died in 1277, followed by Cangrande I in 1329, Giovanni in 1350, Mastino II in 1351, and Consignorio in 1375.

From this point a turning to the left leads to the Corso F. Cavallotti, and at the bottom of it is the *Chiesa di Sant' Anastasia*, on the banks of the Adige.

This church belonged to the Dominicans and was begun in 1290. It is built with a mixture of brick and marble, a custom in Verona at that time. The west façade is unfinished, but was probably intended to be faced with panels of marble in relief.

The lofty Gothic vaulted roof is supported on twelve white marble columns, and the roof was originally richly decorated with frescoes. On entering, the eye is at once caught by the holy water stoops, which are supported on the backs of two grotesque, humpbacked figures, the one on the right being the work of Alessandro Rossi, the father of the humpbacked painter Giambattista Rossi, called "Gobbino," and the date on it is 1591.

In the Pellegrini Chapel the walls are panelled with terra-cotta reliefs of events in the life of Christ, the work of an unknown German. There are also many fine frescoes in the church, including one of the fourteenth century.

Outside the building, on the right hand side on leaving, stands the tomb of Guglielmo da Castelbarco, with his effigy on a red marble sarcophagus which rests on the backs of two lions couchant. Castelbarco was the friend and councillor of Cangrande I della Scala, and these two contributed most of the money for building this church, as well as that of San Fermo Maggiore.

Three other tombs stand beyond this one of Castelbarco, all of intrinsic merit.

The small Church of San Pietro Martire, close by, was once part of the Convent of Sant' Anastasia.

Opposite the church is the *Palazzo Emilei*, of the eighteenth century, where Napoleon Bonaparte stayed



PONTE SCALIGERO, VERONA

VERONA

during the Italian campaign of 1779-1796. The front of this, towards the Via Duomo, has a magnificent portal.

From here the road leads straight down to the *Duomo Santa Maria Matricolare*, which is situated at the apex of the triangle. The beautiful portal is rather curious, for it is built out with two round-headed arches, one above the other, the sides supported by slender columns, while the pointed ridge of the roof reaches to the rose window. In the upper portion is the face of the clock, which looks quite incongruous.

It is a Gothic church of the fifteenth century, built on to a choir of 1137. It has a broad nave and shallow aisles divided by eight red marble fluted pillars, and the semi-circular rood-screen is of marble designed by Sanmicheli, as was also the unfinished campanile.

Above the altar is a bronze crucifix by Giambattista di Verona. There is also a sarcophagus with recumbent figure of Galesio Nichesola by Jacopo Sansovino.

Leaving the Duomo by a side door the Romanesque cloisters are entered; on the north side is a double row of rounded arches, each supported by two slender columns of red marble, one above the other. The other sides have a single row of plain arcading. In the centre of the cloister is a circular well with wheel for drawing up water.

In the cathedral is the tomb of Sant' Agata, with a most beautiful Renaissance framework round the altar. The shield on one of the panels shows a lion standing on one leg, brandishing a drawn sword, and with his tail bristling almost up to the top of his head.

To the left of the choir a corridor leads to San Giovanni in Fonte, an ancient baptistery of the twelfth century. Close to the Duomo is the Palazzo dei Canonici, which contains the "Biblioteca Capitolare"; the Palazzo Zamboni on the east, and the Palazzo Paletta to the south-west; while the Via Garibaldi, leading from the Ponte Garibaldi, can be followed past the Palazzo Miniscalchi to the Via Sant' Eufemia, in which is a church of the same name, a Gothic structure of the thirteenth century with Madonnas by Moretto.

LAGO DI GARDA

The *Chiesa di San Lorenzo* is hidden away down an alley leading from the Corso Cavour. It was built in the twelfth century and has been much restored but not structurally altered or spoilt. It is built like a Roman basilica in two tiers—the bottom for the men, and the upper for the women.

On either side of the entrance are two quaint towers, cylindrical from the ground, with loopholes in the walls and no coping or projections, with corrugated tiles on the flat roofs. Inside are staircases leading to the women's division.

In the interior the rounded arches are supported by lofty columns of Veronese and other marbles, with carved capitals of various designs. The walls are mainly built of alternate courses of red and yellow brick. During the restorations some frescoes were brought to light, probably of the original church of the fifth century.

We are now back in the region of the hotels, that of San Lorenzo being close by, with its front door on the tram line in the Corso Cavour, and its back on the Riva di San Lorenzo, and the other two in the adjoining street.

The tram car can be taken from this point to the lovely Church of San Zeno, passing the Ponte Scaligeri and the Castelvechio, the castle of Cangrande II, built in the fourteenth century, which is now used as barracks.

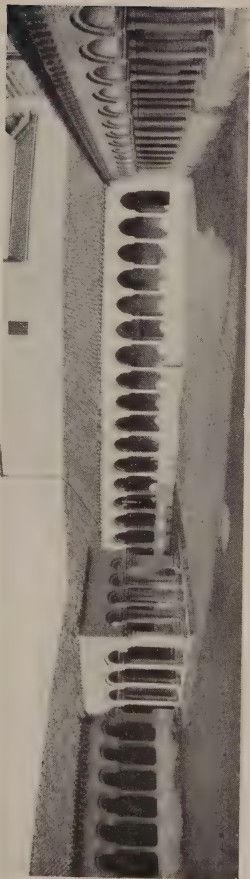
SAN ZENO MAGGIORE

San Zeno is the gem of all the beautiful churches of Verona, and one of the finest Romanesque ones in Northern Italy. It is built of alternate courses of brick and marble of Verona, the "Mandorlato," which passes in colour from pink and creamy yellow to orange red, and it is the most simple, beautiful, perfect work of art of Veronese mediaevalism.

Tradition says that Charlemagne's son was the founder, about A.D. 900; but, anyway, it took more than 200 years to build and the campanile was completed in 1178, at the



BASILICA, SAN ZENO AND MONASTERY, VERONA



SAN ZENO, CLOISTERS

SAN ZENO MAGGIORE

time that peace was restored between the Church and the Emperor.

It is certain that the Emperor Otho I of Germany stayed at the adjoining monastery and gave a large sum of money for the building of this basilica, which has been enlarged and restored but not injured.

The façade has bas-reliefs in panels, roughly carved by Nicolaus and Guglielmus about the year 1139; the base of the portal columns rests on two lions couchant of red marble, a favourite pedestal found also at Bergamo, and on the upper part are scenes from the Old and New Testament and from the life of San Zeno.

The doors are covered with forty-eight panels of bronze reliefs, both quaint and grotesque, probably of the ninth century.

On entering the doors there is a broad flight of steps down into the nave, and the sight at the top of them quite takes away your breath, for there is such a beauty, simplicity, and breadth, with the uninterrupted view of the chancel and crypt below it.

The lofty nave, with two narrow aisles, is supported on alternate columns of a clump of four with plain capitals, and one single one with carved capitals, the rounded arches between having a lofty, solid wall above them to the very slightly arched wooden roof.

Over the chancel is one huge Gothic arch, extending the whole width of the nave, and on either side of it a flight of steps, approached from the aisle, leads to the chancel floor, which forms the roof of the crypt below it.

There is a marble balustrade across the front of the chancel, on which are thirteenth century full-sized figures of Christ and the apostles.

There is a beautiful Madonna and Child enthroned, surrounded by saints and angels, and some good frescoes, including one of San Zeno, also of St. George killing the dragon, and the raising of Lazarus.

On the left hand side of the altar, on a level with the nave, near the foot of the steps up to the choir, is a bronze figure of San Zeno, sitting, holding in his left hand a line with a

LAGO DI GARDA

silver fish dangling from it, and on his face the most astonishing smirk.

San Zeno, an African by birth, was one of the first to preach Christianity, and was the eighth Bishop of Verona; he died in A.D. 380 and was at first buried in a little chapel on the Lago di Garda, but his body was later removed to Verona. He was renowned for his saintliness.

In the lovely crypt below the chancel the body of San Zeno was enclosed in a bronze coffin, and surrounded by finely wrought railings.

This crypt is a thing of amazing beauty. Under the balustrade of the chancel are three perfect semicircular arches supported on slender double columns with ornamented capitals, and a flight of about seventeen steps leading down into it. There are forty-eight of these beautiful white slender columns with differently carved capitals to each, supporting the plain vaulted roof, and two solid square shafts ornamented with frescoes give additional strength for the arches overhead between the chancel and the aisles.

To view this crypt in perspective is sheer delight—it is all so light and airy.

On the south side of the church is the very lofty campanile begun in 1045, without anything to break the line. The top of the square tower has two tiers of open arches, with four corner minarets and a short spire.

On the north side is a high, square brick tower with forked battlements, which formed part of the ancient monastery, which was suppressed in 1770, but belonged to the church, and where emperors, bishops, and other dignitaries were in the habit of staying when passing through Verona.

At the back of this, and entered from the church, are the most perfect cloisters in existence.

THE CLOISTERS OF SAN ZENO

These were built in the twelfth century, and originally consisted of a double arcade and must have been very fine;

THE VERONA ARENA OR ROMAN ANFITEATRO

but the upper one has gone, and only a lean-to roof covered with semicircular tiles has taken the place of the upper arcade.

The rounded arches on the two sides rest upon a pair of columns cut out of a solid block of red Verona marble, including the capitals and bases. The third side of the rectangle has plain Gothic arches supported by one column only.

All the columns are built on a low wall, which kept off the rain from the floor of the cloister, except in one corner, where there is a rectangular prolongation, with square pillars down to the ground, which, according to some authorities, was a sort of wash-house for the use of the monks; but perhaps it formed a protection over the well.

There are several tombs round the walls of the cloisters in which the members of some of the great families of Verona were buried.

We must now return to the Castelvechio, with its forked battlements, and turn to the right down the Via Teatro, in order to reach the Piazza Vittoria Emanuele, a magnificent open space in which the Roman Anfiteatro occupies the place of honour.

THE VERONA ARENA OR ROMAN ANFITEATRO

It ranks next in size to the Coliseum of Rome, and was probably erected before Rome became an Empire, and at first was only used for the fights of wild beasts. Julius Cæsar pitted elephants against rhinoceroses.

The earliest arenas were built of wood, but one of them collapsed and 20,000 spectators were killed or wounded.

That of Verona was built of great blocks of stone and consisted of an arcade of seventy-two arches with two tiers of boxes, and another tier at the top with large windows. It had also seventy-two exits with internal staircases. Marble seats were reserved for those of high degree, and the top tier was for the use of the public.

At the introduction of Christianity the arena was used

LAGO DI GARDA

for fights between Christian martyrs and wild beasts, and for gladiatorial encounters by men only.

San Fermo and San Rustico, the former a nobleman of Bergamo, with his humble friend Rustico, declared themselves Christians, so the Emperor Diocletian ordered them to be roasted alive in the Anfiteatro; but heavy rain fell and put out the fire, according to the legend, so they were denounced as magicians and dragged to the banks of the Adige. Their bodies were obtained by their friends, and eventually buried under the high altar of San Fermo Maggiore, which is dedicated to these saints. Whenever there is a drought, these saints are appealed to, and tradition says rain usually follows.

Gladiatorial fights ended in A.D. 435 with the invasion of the Goths and Huns, so it was next used for judicial trials, public executions, and putting heretics to death. It was much damaged by an earthquake in 1184; in 1276 one hundred victims from Sermione were burnt at the stake here in the presence of 22,000 people. Jousts and tournaments were held during the lordship of the Scaligeri, and for several centuries after. They all loved pomp and show, and extravagance was one of their great failings, especially with Cangrande I, whose virtues were many and his vices few compared to other men of his day, but he died in 1324 at the early age of thirty-seven.

In 1789 it was packed with people waiting for the Pontifical blessing when Pope Pius VI stopped at Verona on his way from Vienna; in the same year the first bull fight was held, and Napoleon I witnessed one in 1805, and the last one was held ten years later.

In 1822 the Congress of Sovereigns was held at Verona, and the whole town, including the Anfiteatro, was lighted up, in the presence of the Emperors of Russia and Austria, the King of Sicily, the King and Queen of Sardinia, and others.

After the battle of Solferino, Vittorio Emanuele came to the arena to show himself with his two sons, in 1866, to the assembled people as King of a United Italy.

In 1924 it was used for a military tournament, and people flocked into Verona for it from all the country round.

THE VERONA ARENA OR ROMAN ANFITEATRO

The Piazza Vittorio Emanuele was formerly the *Piazza di Bra*, from the Roman gateway of that name, which consists of two wide, round-headed arches across the road, the tops of which are machicolated, with the sides built into the two houses, the one on the east, with an octagonal tower, being the Gran Guardia Vecchia, now the corn market.

At right angles to it is a handsome building of two floors with Corinthian columns, which is the Municipio, built in 1838.

In the Corso Vittorio Emanuele there is a statue of Michele Sanmicheli, the greatest of architects.

During the Great War an Austrian bomb fell in the Piazza Vittorio Emanuele and killed sixty people, but not one of the beautiful churches was injured, although aircraft were constantly over the town.

The Via Pallone, starting at the side of the Municipio, is so named from the Italian national game of "pallone," something like our football. This street leads down to the Ponte Aleardi over the Adige, on the other side of which is the cemetery with many monuments.

From the Ponte Aleardi a broad road runs by the side of the river on the east, and before coming to the Ponte Navi the Palazzo Pompeii is passed. It was given to the town by its last owner, Conte Alessandro Pompeii, and is now the *Museo Civico*, containing the *Pinacoteca*, or picture gallery, an early work of Sanmicheli.

On the west side of the Ponte delle Navi, built into a house with a small shop, are the remains of a Roman double gateway, called the *Porta dei Leoni*, with partially preserved inscriptions dating from about A.D. 265.

Before crossing the bridge the Via Venti Settembre, leading to the Porta Vescovo and the eastern railway station, might be noted; and it was here that another Austrian bomb fell on November 14, 1915, and killed thirty people.

At the junction of the Via Leoni and the Strada San Fermo stands the church of the same name.

LAGO DI GARDA

CHIESA DI SAN FERMO MAGGIORE

This church is one of the best examples of ornamental brickwork in Italy. Its foundations go back to A.D. 751, and the crypt was built in 1065. It originally belonged to the Benedictines and passed into the hands of the Franciscans in the thirteenth century, and the restoration of it was due to the generosity of Cangrande I and Castelbarco in 1313.

To the west there is a long flight of steps up to a handsome inset portal, with four small Gothic arches on slender double columns on both sides of the upper portion, and four lancet windows over it; the façade finishes with a gable and three pinnacles. On it is the sarcophagus of Fracastoro, the physician of Cangrande I.

On the north side is also another fine entrance, *La Porta del Fianco*.

The church has a nave and no aisles, with a fine open roof of larch wood.

The Gothic marble pulpit, with marble canopy of 1390, under which is a portrayal of the Crucifixion, is a fine piece of work by Stefano di Zevio.

There is a monument to Morani, with recumbent figure another to Brenzoni and to Della Torre, and a picture of Guglielmo Castelbarco, and other interesting monuments.

The sacristy, cloisters, and crypt are worth seeing.

From this church the Ponte Navi can be crossed, and the broad road along the bank of the swiftly flowing River Adige from which there is an open view to the distant hills.

From the Ponte Umberto the tram line passes the *Chiesa di Santa Maria in Organo*.

This building may go back to the seventh or eighth centuries, and was erected on the site of an older one of 1131, which was perhaps an arsenal. It belonged to the monks of "Olivetani" in 1444, and soon after the campanile was built and Sanmicheli began the façade, which was never completed.

The beauty of the church consists of the most wonderful

CHIESA DI SAN FERMO MAGGIORE

inlaid and carved woodwork in the sacristy and the choir. The former is always kept locked up, so application must be made to the sacristan to see it. The work was executed by Fra Giovanni da Verona, one of the monks belonging to the church.

An Italian writer says: "The rich play of fancy shown by this illustrious brother deserves a volume and a pen of gold to describe it; festoons of fruit and flowers, sphinxes, chimeras, birds, perspective—all is wrought with a perfect and exquisite sense of art, all has succeeded in producing an unparalleled harmony of line and colour in a calm outpouring of inspiration, in a continuous and marvellous freshness."

The tourist must on no account miss this magnificent and wonderful piece of art work, which is considered the most perfect of its kind in the whole of Italy.

Above the wooden panelling are frescoes by Marone, also said to be the most beautiful in Italy. There is a lovely picture of the Madonna and Child with St. Agostino and St. Martino on either side, painted on silk backed with canvas by Girolamo dai Libri, who was a great friend and fellow-worker of Marone. A painting in the transept is by Morando Cavazzola.

A portrait of Fra Giovanni is in the corner of the sacristy. He also carved a four-tiered candelabra, which is a fine piece of work. He died in 1520.

Above the high altar are frescoes by Cavazzola and Brusasorci. In the chapel to the left of the choir is a picture of S. Benedetto, and hiding it, a statue of painted wood called "La Muletta," representing Christ seated on the ass's colt, which is much revered.

After leaving the Church of Santa Maria in Organo the tram line northwards leads back to the river, and before reaching the Ponte Pietra the ruins of the "*Teatro Romano*," which have been excavated, are seen.

This old Roman theatre is said to have been built in the reign of Augustus on the lower slope of the hill, on which was the nucleus of the city of Verona. It was first damaged by an earthquake, after which anyone who wanted building

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materials helped himself as the structure was considered dangerous. Recent excavations have brought to light some of the seats, walls, staircases, arches, and pieces of carved capitals.

Close to it is the little Church of San Siro and San Libera, built over part of the Teatro, and tradition says that Christianity was introduced by San Siro into Verona and that he was the first to celebrate Mass in this little building.

The ruins on the top of the hill are those of the Palazzo di San Pietro, built by Theodoric, King of the Ostrogoths, who loved Verona, but according to the legend loved the chase more; still the stag always escaped from him, after bringing him to the gates of hell, as exemplified in relief on the façade of San Zeno. The palazzo has been replaced by modern barracks.

It is easy to get round Verona quickly by means of the trams. The northerly one starts from the Porta San Zeno, follows the curves of the Adige to the Piazza Erbe, where one branch of it crosses the Ponte Umberto, turns northward, and follows the line of the river on the eastern side and goes through the Porta San Giorgio. Another branch runs from the Piazza delle Erbe to the Ponte Navi and on to the Porta Vescovo. From the latter another recrosses the Ponte Navi and goes round the Anfiteatro and down the Corso Vittorio Emanuele out of the Porta Nuova to the main Milan-Venice station.

First-rate shops of all descriptions will be found in the Via Mazzini, which runs from the Piazza delle Erbe to the Piazza Vittorio Emanuele; the things are not so outrageously expensive as in many of the other towns, and everything requisite can be obtained.

VERONA TO BRESCIA (69.3 km.)

Lucky people may be extending their holiday to Venice, which is only about two hours distant by an express train, but those who cannot spare either time or money for that must turn back with me towards Brescia.

VERONA TO BRESCIA

Both road and rail go the whole length of the southern end of the Lago di Garda and the low hills around Verona are lost to view; but before long there are vistas of the snow-clad peaks among the clouds, encircling the lake, while on the other hand are the rolling plains, still covered with acres and acres of mulberry trees and vines.

At *Castelnuovo*, above the village, are the ruins of a mediaeval fortress, but the rest is modern, as the village was burnt and sacked by the Austrians in 1848.

A peep is obtained of the Rocca di Garda and San Vigilio, followed by a quaint picture of the reflection of the forts of Peschiera with most lovely clouds in the waters of the River Minchio, which wanders round them.

The train will not stop at the station of Peschiera, unless it be a slow one, and the road is here much nearer the lake, and remains so in order that the minor road from Sermione may join it at Lugana.

In the distance the tall tower of San Martino, looking like a lighthouse, breaks the surface of the plain, and soon after a farewell must be taken of the turquoise-blue waters of the lake, and the long, high railway viaduct, built on fifteen Gothic arches of red Verona marble, is sighted.

From Desenzano there are undulating high banks, so the railway goes through a short tunnel, while the road makes a curve to the south, but they meet again at *Lonato*, which is on a hill between the Lago di Garda and the River Chiese.

A large church with a dome catches the eye, as well as a high, square mediaeval tower and the remains of some picturesque walls. It is celebrated for Napoleon's victory over the Austrians in 1796.

There is a slight descent to *Ponte San Marco*, where the River Chiese, whose course we have followed before from Lago d'Idro, crosses the plain at this point. To the south the large village Church of *Monte Chiaro* shows on the skyline, with beautiful clouds, making the rocks against them look like pyramids and lighting up the grey stratification, going in all directions.

A minor road from here leads to Castiglione in the south and another northwards to Salò.

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An extensive plain is crossed to *Rezzato*, and here the fruit trees were a mass of bloom among the mulberry trees.

Soon after the road draws nearer to the foot of the slopes, and Brescia is entered on the east by the Porta Mantova, or, if the journey has been made by train, on the south-west by the Piazza Roma.

BRESCIA

Brescia lies to the south-west of the Lago di Garda, which on that side is under its jurisdiction.

Whereas Verona was triangular in shape, Brescia is almost rectangular, bounded on three sides by a canal, along one of which the tram lines run, with branches bisecting from east and west, and north and south-west.

The main line station is in the same position as at Verona, outside the city, while the exit of the driving roads to Milan is west central and to Venezia south-east.

Near the railway station is the Hotel Igea Terminus, on the Piazzale Stazione, good but expensive. In the town are simpler ones—Albergo Brescia, Via Umberto I, Italia, Corso Zarnardelli; the Gallo and Gambero have good restaurants.

The original name of Brescia was Brixia, a flourishing Roman colony, noted for its manufactory of weapons, to which it has always owed its prosperity, especially in the Middle Ages, and the trade still exists.

Brescia has been attacked by foes from every side almost as much as Verona, until she passed under Venetian rule in the fifteenth century. The inhabitants have always been noted for their military spirit and bravery.

She was sacked by Goths, Huns, and Lombards, but her indomitable resistance prevented her falling an easy prey, and even the women and children fought with the citizens on the ramparts when the city was attacked by the Visconti, and they also prevented the German emperor from establishing his permanent authority in the Lombard towns.

By the treaty of Cambrai of 1512 Brescia belonged to France for a time, but the Venetians surprised the city and

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drove the French garrison into the Castello. It is in connexion with this event at Brescia that the world-renowned BAYARD won his reputation.

The French came to the rescue of their comrades and defeated the Venetian army, while the garrison, headed by Bayard, fought their way down the ice-clad slope from the castle in stockinged feet ; and Bayard was badly wounded.

This disaster stirred the French to frenzy, and uttering a battle-cry of " Bayard, Bayard ! " they rushed on their foes and nothing could stop their desire for revenge for the injury done to their knight *sans peur et sans reproche*.

The wounded Frenchman was carried into the house of a Brescian nobleman, supposed to have been the Palazzo Cigola, where his wife and two fair daughters were living.

The mother trembled for the honour of her girls, but Bayard would not exact his rights over them, which the usage of the times permitted, and also protected them from insult from his followers, and dowered them with the ducats which their mother proffered for their ransom.

On his departure the maidens brought him keepsakes—the one a pair of bracelets woven of her own golden hair, intertwined with gold and silver thread ; the other a purse curiously embroidered.

He placed the bracelet on his arms and fastened the purse in his sleeve, vowing to wear them as long as they should last.

His reputation for chivalry and bravery was maintained to the end of his life. Thirteen years later, in battle, his spine was shattered by a stone shot from a harquebus, so he was propped up against a tree with his face to the foe, where he confessed to his squire and kissed the hilt of his sword instead of a cross.

When the Constable de Bourbon, who had turned traitor to his country, came to offer his condolences, the Chevalier replied with frank directness : " I am not to be pitied who die with my honour unsullied, but you, who are in arms against your prince, your country, and your oath."

So he died at the early age of forty-eight.

Brescia also has its heroes. Arnold of Brescia in an age

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of profligacy was burnt alive at Rome because he preached the doctrines of high principles, poverty, and religion for the priesthood in the tenth century.

The two native artists, of whose work there is much in the churches, were Alessandro Buonvicino, generally called "Il Moretto," a painter of genius, and the vigorous Romanino.

The *Castello* at Brescia is on the top of the only elevation which approaches closely to the city ; it is at the north-east corner commanding the town, and was surrounded by walls with towers at the corners, one built in the fourteenth century, with an overhanging top. It is supposed to have been erected by the Visconti, and was subsequently strengthened by both Venetians and Austrians. There is a good view over Val Trompia from it. To the north of it is the *Torre Mirabella*, with Roman remains. This tower is circular without projections from the base to the top, like those of San Lorenzo at Verona.

The *Museo Civico di eta Romano* is to the south of the Castello and can be visited next. This is the remains of a temple of Hercules from the days of Vespasian, about A.D. 52. There is a broad flight of sixteen steps leading to the entrance, and it seems originally to have possessed a colonnade of ten fluted columns in front of it, as the lower portions of such still exist ; and on a lower level is one very tall column with capital intact, which was unearthed from the ruins when they were excavated in 1882. In the building are three rooms, in which everything found has been arranged and labelled as far as possible. These include stone implements, weapons, pottery, glass, beautifully carved capitals, and many other treasures ; but the most important thing of all is the statue in bronze of "*La Vittoria*," a rather more than life-size figure. It was buried and the wings had been taken off but were lying not far off ; one foot was damaged and whatever she was holding had disappeared, and has been replaced by a shield.

In the same road further eastward is the *Museo Cristiana Mediovale*, originally three churches—that of Santa Giulia (built 1496 to 1599), which belonged to the monastery of

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San Salvatore of the eighth century, and from a window of the former you look down into the latter, which is no longer considered safe for visitors to enter. In it are frescoes of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

In the museum are the remains of beautifully carved capitals, pillars, stones, slabs, and panels, bronze bells in relief, ivories, a most lovely carved cross of the fourth century, as well as the silver-gilt one, richly jewelled, the "Galla Placidia" with medallion. There is a fine tomb of the Conte Marcantonio Martinengo of the sixteenth century and another of Nicolo Orsini, a bronze plaque of the Madonna and Child attributed to Donatello, and many frescoes. It is a most interesting collection, and it would require a long time to enjoy the many treasures collected there.

To the south, not far off, surrounded by houses on three sides, is the *Rovine del Foro Romano*, the remains of the Forum, consisting of one rounded arch in brickwork, supported in the middle by a column with carved capital. The architrave is in ruins, but one corner of the moulding is still there and also some pieces of wall behind it.

The next places of interest are the Duomo Nuovo, and the Duomo Vecchio, commonly called the Rotonda.

THE ROTONDA OR DUOMO VECCHIO

This consists of three parts—the old circular church, the crypt and the presbytery, with two side chapels.

The *Rotonda* is now below the level of the road, so the doorway opening on to it is not used, and it is entered by twenty-five steps downwards from the new cathedral. It is circular, and the huge dome above is built on three arches on each side, with a high one in the middle facing the entrance, with massive piers.

There are ten steps up to a stone ambulatory, which runs round more than half the circuit of the walls, and at the west end above that again fifteen steps lead up to the old tower over the statue of Sant' Antonio. On the ambulatory,

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opposite the closed doorway, is the sarcophagus of Bishop Berardo Maggi.

The ceiling is of plain stucco, and near the top are small, round-headed windows, and round the ambulatory a few arrow slits.

Near the floor level two straight lines show where the foundations of the original church were, which was burnt down in 1097.

On the east a few steps lead up to the presbytery, and on either side is a flight of seven steps down to the dark Roman crypt of the ninth century, on which it was built.

This *crypt* was the *Basilica di San Filastro* and has forty-two columns with naves and three apses. The saint was buried here.

The *presbytery* consists of a choir and two lateral chapels, in each of which is an apse ; in the former is a picture of the Assumption by Moretto, and at the sides one of the Presentation in the Temple and a Visitation, both by Romanino.

We will now return to the *Duomo Nuovo*, in the form of the Greek cross with a prolongation. This was built from the plans of Giovanni Battista Lantana in 1604 on the ruins of Queen Theodolinda's Church of San Piero de Dom. The cupola was not finished until 1823.

The bodies of the two saints Apollonio and Filastrio, with their tombs of fine Renaissance work, have been removed from the Rotonda to the end of the nave here. There is an eighteenth century statue by Antonio Calegari of Sant' Agnese holding a lamb, and many others. The dome of this cathedral was designed by Cagnola, is the third largest in Italy, and was only finished in 1823.

In the Piazza di Duomo is a *fountain* with an allegorical figure of an armed female by Calegari, perhaps in honour of the women of Brescia who fought with their men for the preservation of their homes in early days.

On the east side of the Duomo in Via Mazzini is the *Biblioteca Queriniana*, founded about 1750 by Cardinal Querini. It possesses some 125,000 volumes, including 1,500 valuable manuscripts and early printed books. There



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is a "Evangeluario," or copy of the Gospels, of the sixth century bound in purple vellum with letters in silvered mica; the "Concordanze Eusebiane," with a miniature of the sixth century; the "Statute Bresciane," giving local history between 1200 and 1385; and many other precious and interesting old documents.

In the Via Carlo Cattaneo, by the side of the Duomo, is a corner of the *Broletto*, adjoining the *Torre del Popolo*, a very tall, square tower with forked battlements round the top of it.

The *Broletto* is a mediaeval palace in Lombard style, originally dating from 1187-1213, but it was not completed for about 300 years. Until 1421 it was the ancient palace of the Municipio, the largest in existence in Italy, and is now the Courts of Justice.

The west front, flush with the Torre del Popolo (1200), is the most perfect, with an ornamental balcony over the first floor, and round-headed arches over three or four pierced windows divided by slender, twisted columns, dating from 1222.

There is another window in the same style to the north, which is entered from the courtyard by two arches—one eastwards and the other westwards. The courtyard is arcaded on the south and east, and the building is a massive quadrilateral.

Adjoining the old tower of the Broletto in the Piazza di Duomo is the little Church of *Sant' Agostino*, which is a good example of the Lombard architecture in terra-cotta of the fourteenth century. There is a fine rose window.

Between the two museums in the Via Veronica Gambara is another small church of the eighth century, *San Corpo di Cristo*, also noteworthy for its terra-cotta in many colours of the fifteenth century, and its marble portal of the sixteenth century. There is a picture by Moretto and frescoes by Paolo Morone.

While in this neighbourhood it would be as well to take a look at the *Chiese di Santa Maria del Solario* in the Val dei Musei. The one wall of this church is now on the roadway and forms part of the adjoining buildings.

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It dates from the twelfth century and is of stone in a rectangle, while the polygonal roof, probably by Desiderio, is supported on slender square pillars with rounded arches.

It is quite a small building, as it belonged to a monastery, and this was the oratory of the monks. A side door leads to a flight of stairs, which go down to a lower floor, and this room forms a central support for the oratory above, and in the middle is a square sepulchral column with an altar, on which is inscribed the words "Deo-Soli-Res Publica." This epigraph has given the name to the church: it was probably the treasure-house of the monks.

There are many frescoes of 1513 to 1520 by Ferramola and other Brescian masters.

The *Torre detta della Pallata*, of the twelfth century, is near here, and is a good specimen of castellated, forked battlements, with a massive base on which is an elaborate sculptured fountain, the work of Pietro Bagnadore, who was architect, painter, and sculptor all in one. There is a small campanile above the tower, which is now used as the town belfry to call the people together in an emergency.

From here we will go to the Piazza di Loggio, or Del Comune, which is the centre of the town and of the life of the people of Brescia.

La Loggia is considered one of the chief architectural beauties of Brescia. It is built of various marbles in the early Renaissance style and was begun in 1492 by Fromentone of Vicenza. The building work was stopped during the occupation of Brescia by the French, but begun again in 1526 and finished in 1574. The next year it was badly damaged by a fire, the work of an incendiary.

The best architects, sculptors, and painters of the time all contributed to make the Loggia a typical work of art.

The lower part by Fromentone consists of a very deep colonnade, supported on three rounded arches to the front and others on both sides, with massive groups of piers and columns, the capitals on the side to the piazza being richly sculptured, the work of Giovanni and Cristoforo dell'Ostello and Jacopo da Verona, about 1508. The doors and carved woodwork are from the designs of Stefano Lamberti.

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In 1554 Sansovino modified the previous designs and made the lovely frieze of "putti" above the first-floor windows, under the upper balustrade.

In the spandrels of the arches are busts of men who had merited recognition for their services in the many famous sieges of Brescia, and these were the work of Antonio della Porta and Gaspare da Milano, or at least the latter is believed to have been responsible for some of it, and there is a profusion of figures, heads, and medallions.

The original roof was destroyed by the fire, and an octagonal one substituted, but in 1915 this was done away with, and a huge cupola built more in accordance with the original plan.

The portico is by Stefano Lamberti of the sixteenth century, and there are pictures by Lattanzio Gambara of the same date.

The *Monte di Pietà* façade on the east was the work of Pier Maria Bagnadore in 1597, but the fine arcade, with a double row of columns down the middle and plained groined roof, was the work of Antonio Zurlengo in 1484. The capitals of the columns are well carved.

Over the entrance in the Piazza del Comune are seven narrow, round-headed arches supported by slender columns to the balcony and a sculptured frieze over on the same level as the capitals of the fluted pillars on either side of the ground level.

At the other entrance over the single arch is a concealed window with a long, narrow window, having rounded corners on either side.

The *Torretta dell' Orologio* faces La Loggia in the middle of the long, arcaded front of the palace, and is over the archway which was the Porta Bruciata of 1522. Above the arch is the face of a huge clock with the hours marked from one to twenty-four, and on a raised pedestal are two metal figures, who strike the big bell, which is only supported by a metal pole going through it.

Behind this, to the left, is an old tower and some remains of the city walls.

From the Piazza della Loggia we must take a look at the

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most important of the churches, of which there are some sixteen.

We will take them in the order of approach and not of merit, in order to save the time of the tourist, who may not have much to spare for Brescia.

Going northwards from the Torre dell' Orologio, in the Via Gasparo da Salò is the *Chiesa di San Giuseppe*, built in 1521 by the Franciscans and suppressed in 1866. It contains the tomb of Gasparo da Salò, the maker of the first violin, who died in 1608, and of another musician, Benedetto Marcello, who died in 1739. There are frescoes by local artists.

On leaving San Giuseppe and turning to the right the Via San Faustino is entered and followed for nearly the whole length, and at the north end is the *Chiese San Faustino and Giovita*. It was attached to a Benedictine monastery, and from a small basilica it was enlarged in the seventeenth century from the designs of Calegari. In a circular, marble tomb rest the remains of the two patron saints, San Faustino and San Giovita, behind the high altar, which is of black and white marble designed by Antonio Carra, who lived in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

The roof is covered with frescoes of 1700 in perspective by Tomaso Sandrini; that in the choir is by Lattanzio Gambara as well as those in the room of the "pretura"; there is also a painting by Romanino of the Resurrection.

The very big organ is at the back of the high altar. The monastic buildings are now used as a college. Cloisters adjoin.

We now retrace our steps a little way and on the other side of the same road is the *Chiesa Madonna del Carmine*, nearly at the corner of the Via Cesare Arici.

The sunk portal of the fifteenth century with ornamentation in brickwork is interesting as well as the frescoes filling in the rounded arch, the latter the work of Floriano Ferramola.

The church has three aisles with frescoes by Vincenzo Foppa and a group of ten figures in terra-cotta by Mazzoni.

On leaving here the Via San Faustino should be again



TORRE DELL' OROLOGIA, BRESCIA

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followed to the south, and a turning to westward leads to the Via Pietro Tamburini and the *Chiesa di San Giovanni Evangelista*.

This was one of the first churches of Brescia, founded in the fourth century, but rebuilt in the sixteenth to the designs of Stefano Lamberti. It contains some of the finest pictures in the city.

There is one by Romanino of Mary Magdalene washing the feet of Christ and the Marriage of the Virgin, which is considered his best. By Moretto there are several: the Last Supper, the Coronation of the Virgin, the Ascension of the Madonna, the Massacre of the Innocents, and some frescoes. The "Ancona Intagliata," with frame by Lamberti, is attributed to Civerchio.

There is also good carved woodwork.

From San Giovanni the Via Giovita Scalvini runs to the north of it and merges into the Via Capriolo, and towards the end of this will be found the *Chiesa Santa Maria delle Grazie*.

This church was built in 1522 by Ludovico Barcella da Chiari. The very fine portal was brought from an old church of Borgo Pile. The interior has rounded arches, both down the nave and across the aisles, which are entirely covered with ornamentation.

The roof of the nave is also semicircular and most profusely decorated, and is for the most part of gilded "stucchi," which was done at a later date.

There are frescoes by Morone, Rossi Gandini, and others.

From here turn southwards down the Corso of the same name, which goes into the Corso Garibaldi, and at the corner of the Via G. Verdi and the Corso Goffredo Mameli is the *Torre della Pallata*, a massive tower of the twelfth century, with forked, battlemented top and a small campanile above, in which swings the bell, which is rung to call the citizens together in case of emergency.

On the broad, projecting base is a very uncommon fountain by Bagnadore.

The Via G. Verdi and tram line can be followed to the

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Corso Palestro, and at the corner stands the *Chiesa di San Francesco*.

This was founded in 1254 by the Franciscans, but little of the original church is left.

The west façade is in Lombard style with a plain, wide portal and a many pointed star rose window. It contains frescoes of the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, another beautiful ancona, the joint work of Stefano Lamberti with picture of the Madonna by Romanino, probably his masterpiece; an alter-piece by Moretto, and other paintings by Francesco da Prato di Caravaggio of 1547, and frescoes depicting scenes in the life of Christ. There is a most lovely cross of silver of the fifteenth century.

It was in this church that the Brescians took the oath of allegiance to the Venetian Republic. There are fine cloisters here, the same as at the Church of the Franciscans at Gargnano on the Lago di Garda.

Near by, in the Corso Vittorio Emanuele, is the *Chiesa di Santa Maria dei Miracoli*, which is on the tram line with the entrance over the footpath.

It owes its origin to a supposed miraculous apparition of the Virgin in the house of a certain Federico Pelaboschi, and the first stone of the church was laid in 1488 by the then Bishop of Brescia. The original design by Jacopo was of modest proportions, but in 1522 it was modified when it passed into the hands of Stefano Lamberti and Girolamo di San Pellegrino.

The chief interest lies in the beautifully sculptured porch projecting over the footpath. It is a most lovely design by Lamberti, who seems to excel above all other architects in fine detailed work. It must have taken years to design, draw, and execute, and it is impossible to describe the beauty of it.

The statues in the niches are the work of Antonio Calegari. Inside are paintings by Moretto, his pupil Morone, Bagnadore, and other Brescian artists. Moretto and Romanino were pupils of Foppa, the founder of Brescian painting.

In the same Corso, further south, is the *Chiesa di San*

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Nazaro and San Celso, an eighteenth century building, which is noteworthy for its pictures.

Over the high altar here is the finest in all Brescia, painted by Titian in 1522, the Resurrection of Jesus occupying the whole of the central panel, while the two small panels on either side of the top depict the Annunciation.

Moretto contributes a very fine Coronation of the Virgin, Romanino the Adoration of the Magi, and other artists are represented.

The Via Moretto leads from the Corso Vittorio Emanuele eastward, and here is the *Chiesa di San Lorenzo*, an eighteenth century church with a fine picture by Gambara and a figure by Antonio Carra, which belonged to an older church, and some sculpture in "putti" by Calegari.

In the same street, still further east, is the *Chiesa di Sant' Alessandro*, founded in the twelfth century and reconstructed in the eighteenth. It has a fine picture of the Annunciation painted in 1432 by Fra Angelico da Fiesole.

At the corner of Via Arsenale and Via Martinengo da Barco is the *Chiesa di Sant' Afra* of 1580, on the site of an old temple. There is a noted painting by Titian of the Woman taken in Adultery, one of the Ascension by Tintoretto, the Martyrdom of Sant' Afra by Paolo Veronese, the Annunciation by Rossi, the Nativity by Carlo Cagliari, and others, while the frescoes on the roof are by Bagnadore and Rossi. It has a curious crypt.

Close to this church is the *Pinacoteca Tosio and Martinengo*, the picture gallery of Brescia, in which are further examples of the works of the artists already mentioned and of many others.

From the picture gallery the Via Agostino Gallo leads northward to the *Vicolo San Clemente* and the church of the same name. This old parish church in 1517 passed into the hands of the Dominicans and was later joined to the Church of Sant' Alessandro.

It contains five paintings by Moretto, one being the Five Virgins, and another that of Santa Cecilia. It also contains the painter's tomb, with a bust of him by A. Sangiorgio, near the door.

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Further eastward, in the Via Treiste, is the convent Church of *Santa Maria Calchera*, with a picture by Romanino called the Mass of Sant' Apollonio and one by Moretto of Mary Magdalen at the feet of Jesus, which is considered very good.

The Camp Santo at Brescia is on the west side of the town between the Via Milano and the railway line outside the Porta di San Giovanni, and a fine avenue of cypress trees leads to it. It was planned by the Brescian architect Vantini, who built a good chapel between the two semi-circles, and over the altar in this is a statue by Gandolfi of the Angel Gabriel ascending into Heaven.

Near by are the mausoleums of the leading Brescian families of Maffei, Martinengo Cesaresco di Barco, and of Count Tosi.

To see all the above-mentioned places of interest will require a stay of four days in Brescia, and this period might be prolonged with advantage.

From Brescia there is an electric tramway by Tormini and Salò to the Lago di Garda, with a branch line to Vestone, whence another goes by the Lago di Ledro and Condino to Tione.

The direct rail and road go westwards to Milano, but we will follow minor ones in a more northerly direction to see the beautiful little Lago d'Iseo, which lies to the south of the imposing Adamello group of mountains in the Alto Adige.

FROM BRESCIA TO ISEO

Leaving Brescia by the north gate the outskirts of the town are not attractive, as there are many factories with tall chimneys, but these must be ignored and the eye can wander over the distant view with the fringe of hills to the north-east, which compensate for the objectionable foreground.

The suburbs extend to the village of *Borgo San Giovanni*, after passing which the scenery improves, with green pasture land and terraced humps with fruit trees in full bloom.

LAGO D'ISEO

From *Mandolossa* three undulating ranges of hills are seen rising ever higher, while the valley is again covered with mulberry trees, with patches of very vivid green grass between, all round *Paderno*.

Bornato-Calino is a very large village on both sides of the railway line, with grassy terraces on which the vines grow well on the east, protected by the hills behind. The scenery improves, the hills covered with trees draw together from both sides, and distant mountain peaks appear.

From *Borgonato*, an old village to the west on the railway line, the first view of the mountains around the Lago d'Iseo are visible.

Soon after the *Torbiere* are seen, consisting of a large tract of land from which turf has been cut out from big rectangular places into which the waters of the lake have flowed, the grassy, raised paths between forming them into many square ponds.

LAGO D'ISEO

The Lake of Iseo is to the north-west of Brescia, amongst the Brescian Alps, as they are often called, and the shape is much the same as that of Garda, being long and narrow, widening about the middle, where is situated the largest island of any in the Italian lakes.

It is 616 feet above sea level and it is fed by the River Oglio, which flows down the Val Camonica and enters the lake on the north between Lóvere and Pisogne, and by minor streams—the Tinazzo at Castro on the west, the Tórbolio at Pisogne on the north-east, and the Bagnadore at Marone on the east.

On the mountain ranges on both sides the remains of a glacier can be traced, and on the Island of Olzano is a "trovante" of seventy-three cubic metres.

There is an abundance of fish such as sardines, perch, trout, "tinca," and "luccio"; also wild ducks. The length is 25 km. and the maximum width is only 4·7 km., so that both banks can be clearly seen from the steamer, which is the means of communication between the villages.

LAGO DI GARDA

The lake is easily accessible from Milan ; from Bergamo to Sarnico in the south, Bergamo to Lóvere in the north-west, and Brescia to Iseo and Pisogne on the east. All these routes pass through interesting country.

The wind which blows here from north to south from dawn till noon is equivalent to the Tramontana or the Ora of Lago di Garda, but is called the Vet or Et, and is a sign of fine weather. The direction is then reversed, and from noon till sunset the wind is from south to north.

HISTORY OF LAGO D'ISEO

This begins with its conquest by the Romans under Tiberius Græcus, and traces of this dominion are found all over the lake.

After the fall of the Roman Empire the Christian religion was brought to this part by San Vigilio and San Zeno, who converted the inhabitants.

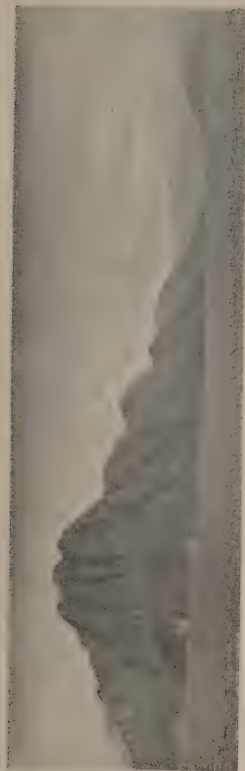
The Lombards and Franks came after the Romans, with occasional raids by Hungarians and Saracens, and in 1158 some of Barbarossa's troops passed this way. At this date the Federici family of Val Camonica and the Oldofredi of Iseo are mentioned in history.

The lake region suffered many vicissitudes, although it enjoyed special privileges, and passed through the hands of both the Scala and Visconti families, and, after the fall of Napoleon, into those of Austria, at the same time as did Lombardy and Venetia.

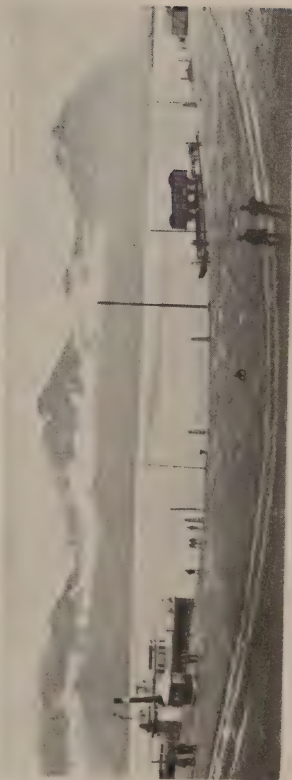
The inhabitants of Iseo took part very enthusiastically in 1866 in the war for Italian freedom, siding with the inhabitants of Val Camonica.

The Lacus Sebinus of the Romans owes its beauty to the diversity in shape of the mountains, with their many pointed tops and the lovely colouring of the water ; and it is for this reason that tourists should make an effort to see it. The south-west corner is exposed to the winds blowing from that direction.

On arriving at the village of Iseo from Brescia (26 km.)



PISOGNE FROM LÓVERE AND MONTISOLA



LÓVERE AND MOUNTAINS TO THE WEST, ISEO

HISTORY OF LAGO D'ISEO

two courses are open to the tourist—to sleep at Iseo, or drive straight on to Pisogne, both places being on the main high road to Breno and Edolo. The railway also follows the same route, but there are so many tunnels that the scenery cannot be enjoyed by that means of conveyance.

If the train has been used as the means of transit from Brescia, and there is nothing against it on this portion of the line, a carriage can be hired at Iseo, and a slow drive enjoyed to Pisogne.

There are no cosmopolitan hotels on this lake, and the Albergo Leon d'Oro at the steamer pier at Iseo is a possibility, for those accustomed to Italian Alberghi.

There is central heating installed in some of the rooms, but the weather was very cold and wet, with fresh snow low down on the mountains. The beds were clean and comfortable, but if a stay be made here out of the season, it is necessary to see that they are well aired by means of charcoal braziers. The food is good and abundant and the wine excellent.

At Pisogne the Albergo Tre Stella has only seven rooms for letting purposes.

The drawback to passing the two necessary nights here for viewing the lake is, that the times of the steamer do not fit in, while by starting from Iseo the whole circuit of the lake can be made in comfort, as will be seen from the following description.

We will now take a look at the village of *Iseo*, which can be done on the day of arrival from Brescia.

It is a small town with walls round it, and the remains of a fortress, but there is nothing picturesque and at the present day it has a poverty stricken appearance.

The streets are very narrow and old-looking, with arcades round three sides of the piazza, under which are the small, useful, housekeeping shops, which do not look attractive, but are no doubt quite sufficient for the needs of the 3,000 odd inhabitants. However, we much appreciated the excellent coffee and abundant supplies of small cakes for afternoon tea, which we discovered in them.

A good deal of laundry work is carried on along the front

LAGO DI GARDA

of the lake, which is adorned with garments of all descriptions as well as the household washing. On Friday, the market day, the little place wakes up, and wakes up early, and then some interesting groups may be seen and their voices heard, as well as those of the animals they have brought to sell.

The following dialogue was heard a little before 6 a.m. between a man who had left Lóvere by steamer at 3.50 and the hotel-keeper : " You have left your windows on the first floor open all night ! " in a shocked tone of voice, for it had been pouring. " Yes, there are two ladies in those rooms. " " But the glass window is open as well as the jalousies ! " A shrug of the shoulders was given, with the remark : " These ladies are English, and there is no accounting for what some people do ! "

The church of Iseo was erected, on Roman remains, in the fifth century, rebuilt with a campanile in 1325, and the west façade is the only old part remaining. The picture of San Michele is attributed to Hayez.

In the Casa Guerrini, San Vigilio, then Bishop of Trento, is said to have lived, and there is a statue of him on the front of the house and also in the church. The piazza has a monument to the memory of Garibaldi, and this was the first in Italy to be erected to him. There is also one to Gabrielle Rosa (1812-1897) the historian, who was born in Iseo, opposite the landing stage.

We were very puzzled at Iseo, on looking up the westward bend of the lake to Sarnico, by something which looked like a small island with two trees on either side of a mast, but after watching it for some little time and speculating as to what it could possibly be, the conclusion was forced upon us that it was not stationary, but was growing bigger every moment.

Still we could not make it out ! As it approached the curve of the lake it turned broadside on and then the mystery was solved. We saw that it was a special steamer tug, and two rafts were fastened on either side of it, and each of these four carried three or four railway trucks filled with cement and other goods from Sarnico for delivery at Pisogne or Lóvere.

In the distance, when viewed end onwards, it had exactly

STEAMER EXCURSION ON LAGO D'ISEO

the appearance of an island, with a tall chimney in the middle and four clumps of trees.

The mountains on the east divide the valley of the Oglio from the Val Trompia, but it can be reached on foot from Iseo by climbing the hill at the back of the village, where there are many rough footpaths, and in about half an hour a bridle-path will be struck leading to Polaveno, whence there is a path into the Val Trompia turning northwards to Gardone (24 km. from Brescia), the principal place in this valley. This must be not confused with the two of the same name on the Lago di Garda.

In this valley the iron is found which is used so much by the manufacturers of Brescia. From the Val Trompia the Tridentina can be entered, as it joins the driving road from Brescia along the River Mellato to Bovegno and San Colombano.

STEAMER EXCURSION ON LAGO D'ISEO

After a night of torrential rain hope revived at the sight of a patch of blue sky and fresh snow on the mountains' jagged tops, but, alas! that gap soon disappeared under the clouds and the rain descended as before, but time was scarce, so we decided to venture on the steamer excursion, as that would afford some cover.

One steamer only, the "Semino," does the whole of the work on the lake. It is small and narrow and rides high out of the water. There is a first-class cabin with promenade deck from which the beautiful views over the lake on both sides can be enjoyed, and a tarpaulin awning is fastened over the third-class part, as this is occupied by the natives, whose business takes them from one village to another.

There are no provisions to be obtained aboard, but a meal can be eaten during the enforced wait for the return of the boat.

The early boat starts from Lóvere at the north of the lake at 3.50 a.m., so that one will not commend itself to tourists, and by the next the complete tour of the lake

LAGO DI GARDA

can only be accomplished by starting from Iseo in the south.

The boat leaves here at 9.40, and a halt is made at several villages on the way to Pisogne on the north-east and Lóvere on the north-west, reached at 11.40. Here lunch can be obtained as the return voyage does not begin till 2.20, reaching Iseo at 4.11.

Instead of getting off the steamer here we can go to the south-west bend of the lake, which makes an elbow curve, and return to Iseo at 5.45 p.m.

The low mountains to the south-east form an unbroken, undulating ridge above Iseo, and looking south and west there is a broad, flat plain where the River Oglio, which passes through the lake, flows out at the south-west corner.

The lake makes almost a right angle from Iseo to the south-west, and *Sarnico* lies in a deep, wide bay, with the village hidden by a long, low hill at some little distance from the lake.

Here there are stone quarries and factories for the spinning and weaving of silk and the making of varnish. On the piazza a tablet has been erected to the memory of the "Fatti di Sarnico" (1862), incidents in which Sarnico played its part concerning the desired invasion of the Trentino by Garibaldi and his followers. The tall church tower is a conspicuous object.

There are two castles—one on the hills above *Paratico*, the *Castello dei Lantieri*, where Dante stayed for some time, and the other is the *Castello di Montecchio* (a half hour's walk up the river), which stands on the top of an isolated hill on the skyline. The Montecchio was the monastery of the Servii monks, but is now a private villa.

The mountains to the north of the bay in which Sarnico lies are bare and stony with the base washed by the lake, so the road close to the water's edge has been cut out of the rock.

The next steamer stop is at *Predore*, an old, picturesque village, built on the lower slope of the mountain, with a fine cascade in the cleft. The stone houses with rounded red tiles look very old, and there are the remains of a Roman

STEAMER EXCURSION ON LAGO D'ISEO

tower close to the water. Two churches fill in the picture, together with stone terraces on which fruit trees were in full bloom. There are some plantations of orange and lemon trees on the slopes.

An excursion can be made up the mountain from here to the *Santuario di San Gregorio*, on a rock, which shows up well in the light of the setting sun, and from which a beautiful view is obtained.

The steamer halts sometimes at *Clusane*, opposite Predore, a small village, in front of which the reeds grow in the green, oily-looking water, where two men were standing up in a boat spearing eels, which could be watched through the transparency of the water, for which this lake is noted.

From Predore the steamer goes round the elbow bend in the lake where the mountains appear to draw close together, leaving only a narrow opening between the two opposite shores, the northern part being entirely hidden until the course is due north and then a fine view bursts on the sight.

The mountains to the north-east are very fine; jagged peaks rise one behind another, with rounded humps in the middle distance and villages showing in the gaps low down between them.

In the foreground, mid-channel, is the *Montisola*, an island two miles long with a peak of the same name 1,965 feet high. The steamer goes between this and the shore, so the villages on it are only seen from the eastern shore and will be noted later on.

Tavernola, on the western bank, is opposite this island. *Tavernola Bergamasea* consists of a long row of houses at the edge of the water, and there is a very quaint top to the church, and a cemetery and chapel on the hill slope, with a big octagonal church in the middle of the village. The front portion of Tavernola fell into the lake in 1906 as the result of an earthquake. The tower of the new parish church is built on the base of an old castle tower. The octagonal Church of San Pietro has some good frescoes.

There is another village on the plateau above here—Cambianica—which has a fourteenth century church built in the Lombard style.

LAGO DI GARDA

Further down the lake, at a distance of 2.4 km., is a glacier "Muhles" of eight cubic metres.

From Tavernola the steamer crosses the lake to *Marone*, which is about half way, and by changing its course it affords a fine view of the splendid mountain peaks on both sides.

Vello is at the foot of Monte Pizzoli, where through the many tunnels are peeps of emerald green slopes to the south and olive green slopes to the north. The steamer then turns from here to recross the lake, and the *Santuario S. S. Trinita* is seen on the bare, brown rocky mountains sloping down to the lake. The Pesenti cement works are here and near them a waterfall. From here the lake makes a big curve towards the east, and a torrent leaps down from the top of a high, rounded mountain covered with olive trees, with snow mountains behind, and while the south slopes show squarish patches of bright emerald grass, the north side is brownish-olive-green. The next village on the west shore is *Riva di Solto*, with old houses spread along the water's edge, and one good, fine palazzo with garden down to the lake, with its own landing stage. The silk and cement industries are carried on here, and there are quarries of black marble from which the columns of St. Mark's at Venice came. The climate is mild. Above it are the villages of *Solto* and *Solto Inferiore*, and from here a road leads down to the Cavallina valley and Lake Endine.

The road from *Riva di Solto* to *Castro*, formerly *Castrum*, meaning a fortified place, goes by the "Bogn di Riva" which is so named from the vertical stratification of the rocks along this bit of the lake.

The formation is most peculiar, and a new road has been comparatively recently made through them for a distance of 7 km. at the base of this high, chalky rock sheer down into the water.

The ridge of mountains ends near *Castro* in a series of humps, each a little lower than the one before, and the last is a slope down to the valley and is covered with olive-brown shrub.

The new road here is made upon arches at the foot of the



ROAD AND RAIL OPPOSITE RIVA-DI-SOLTO, LAGO D'ISEO

STEAMER EXCURSION ON LAGO D'ISEO

slopes, and the village is down at the shore on the delta of the Borlezza.

It is the chief industrial centre on the lake, and there are quarries, foundries, chalk-pits, and weaving factories. From the eighteenth century onwards guns and cannon have been made here.

There is a walk up the stream to the *Forra del Tinazzo*, which is the name of the lower part of the Borlezza stream, and a deep gorge with a natural arch, under which the water flows. From here it is an hour's walk to *Pianico*, of which mention will be made later, passing by the Rocca.

The steamer crosses the lake again, passing near *Tolino* and *Govine* on the east side, and makes for the next little town.

Pisogne was important in Roman times and has inscriptions and remains from those days.

There is a "Torre del Vescovo," or bishop's palace, and a thirteenth century tower with clock.

The Chiesa della Ospedale and the sanctuary of Santa Maria della Neve have frescoes by Romanino and the celebrated *danza macabra*. The parish church is large with some good pictures and the old church of Pieve di Santa Maria in Silvio was reconstructed in 1485 and has an interesting doorway.

From Pisogne the steamer goes straight across the head of the lake to *Lóvere*, which occupies a corresponding position on the west bank, and is the terminus for the steamboats as well as the starting-point of the Trescore-Bergamo railway. It is picturesquely situated, with the old houses built one above the other on the lower slopes of the mountains.

The parish Church of Santa Maria in Valvandra of 1474 stands up above the village to the north, a fine, large church with nave, two aisles, and marble altar with much gilding at the back of it. The paintings in the apse are attributed to Moretto when he was about eighteen, and there is one by Romanino on the façade and an inlaid one by Fra Raffaele da Brescia. In one chapel is a fine statue in wood of San Sebastiano of the sixteenth century, and a reliquary of 1488.

LAGO DI GARDA

The clock tower of grey stone in the middle of the town is built on old foundations. The Palazzo dell Accademia Iadini contains a small collection of arms, porcelain, and old pictures.

Just outside the town is the Monastery of San Maurizio which is now used as a seminary. High up on a rocky hill is the Santuario di Giovanni di M. Cala, whence there is a beautiful view. On the mountain side are four different villages spread out at about equal distances one above the other, with a fine jagged mountain towering above them. These command extensive views.

Tourists making a stay at either Pisogne or Lóvere should make an excursion into the upper part of the Oglio valley to Edolo. There is a tramway as far as *Darfo* with a road on both sides of the river, as well as the main line railway from Brescia on the east side.

At Darfo the Val' Angolo branches off to the north-west, while to the east the pedestrian will find the Val dell' Inferno and the Val di Frigna leading to the mountains, before Breno is reached.

Both road and rail run close together to *Sellero*. Beyond that, to the east, is a carriage road as far as the village of *Saviore*, whence the torrent can be followed up the Saviore valley and Monte Foppa climbed.

The Val Malga, another valley a little further up the Oglio, leads to the Mont' Adamello, the highest peak in this group.

The main road goes on to Edolo, where a night can be spent at the Albergo del Leone, and the upper part of the Oglio explored. From here a motor bus goes to *Tonale* and on to *Malè*, whence others run to *Bolzano* in one direction and to *Tione* and *Lago Ledro* in another, or by *Storo* to *Riva-sul-Garda*, as already described. The Passo del Aprica can also be explored.

From Lóvere another road goes to the north-west by *Sovere* and *Clusone*.

DRIVE FROM ISEO TO LOVERE AND PIANICO

DRIVE FROM ISEO TO LOVERE AND PIANICO

The second day the sun shone brightly and a few light clouds flecked the sky, while all the mountains were covered with fresh-fallen snow, and the lake shone with ethereal beauty.

A carriage was hired, and at 8.30 a start was made and the village of Iseo was left behind without much regret. The first part of the road runs at the foot of gentle slopes with grassy terraces below the straight, bare ridge of low mountains above Iseo.

Several small villages were passed, and the road went behind two promontories jutting out into the lake, and a good view was obtained to the west, down the short elbow curve to Sarnico.

The Cima and d'Oregia on the *Island of Montisola*, which is a solid square, next draws the eye, with its green slopes and olive trees to the south, while on the east it stands up bare and rocky, crowned by the pilgrimage church (1,965 feet) on a precipice on the skyline. In the far-off distance are the lovely snow-clad peaks of the Brescian Alps, the forerunners of the Adamello group of mountains.

On the south of the island is *Peschiera Maraglio*, a fishing village where nets are made, with pretty loggia to the houses. It is a very simple summer resort.

From *Peschiera Maraglio* it is an hour's walk along the shore to Siviano, the road rising through the olive woods to Mensino, at the south-west corner, and passing the interesting ruins of the Rocca Martinengo (986 feet) with the remains of walls erected by the Spaniards. In the interior of the castle are the remains of some frescoes. The path goes on to Siviano, and from there another leads to Cassano on the east shore, in twenty minutes.

The highest point of the island is occupied by the *Santuario della Seriola*, a pilgrimage church poised on the very edge of the rocky point, from which steps and a narrow footpath lead down the green slopes to the small village of Siviano at the north, above which are terraced slopes with olive trees.

LAGO DI GARDA

The island is approached from *Sale Marasino* on the east bank of the lake by a ferry boat. This village is at the foot of the snow mountains, the nearest peak being Monte Caprello.

LAGO ISEO DRIVE—ISEO TO PIANICO

The road from here, following the shape of the mountains curves half-way round the north end of the island, thus giving a fine view southwards before *Marone* is reached. It stands at the entrance to two valleys, Punta Tisdel being between, with its fine jagged peaks, showing the snow-capped Monte Guglielmo, which had previously been viewed with pleasure from Iseo. The front of the village is ugly, with factories for blanket making and silk spinning, and the church is close to the landing stage. An excursion can be made from here into Val Trompia.

From Marone onwards you approach the finest part of the lake as you gradually near the base of the *Corno Trenta Passi*. There are spurs from the high mountains here projecting into the water, so that both road and the rail above it are carried through a few tunnels. As *Vello* is reached the mountains become more majestic, the tunnels more frequent, and it is impossible to see the mountain-tops which tower above the road, and the mountain side has been blasted to allow the railway to pass along it, so the rocks overhang the whole of the line until it disappears again into another tunnel. The road takes a sharp turn to the right after passing through a series of tunnels, and its character alters and becomes more majestic still, for perpendicular mountains come sheer down into the lake with many indentations requiring separate tunnels to each. They consist of bare, grey rocks without vegetation, for nothing can gain a foothold.

On looking back from a little headland the last glimpse of this rocky grandeur is obtained and an absolutely different vista to the north is disclosed on rounding the corner, for the head of the lake is then in sight, with the two little towns of *Pisogne* on the east and *Lóvere* on the west, facing each



FOUR TUNNELS, LAGO D'ISEO



LAGO ISEO DRIVE—ISEO TO PIANICO

other. The high mountain above Pisogne is the Dosso Pedone, and both that and the Corno Trenta Passi are the outstanding features when looking across the lake from Lóvere.

The flat, marshy land formed by the *Oglio* has next to be traversed, and this is a most deceptive piece of road, for it consists of many bends all turning up the valley, so that it seems as though *Lóvere* would never be reached. The valley at the north is enclosed by a semicircle of mountains, so there appears to be no exit in that direction, but it makes a turn eastward to Edolo.

The terminus of the *Pianico, Trescore-Bergamo* railway is passed on the outskirts of Lóvere, and the passenger station is up in the town. Both road and rail turn westward from *Lóvere* and, making hairpin curves, leave the lake behind by the Tinazzo Gorge between two rocky, emerald-green humps and emerge into the Conca di Poltragno. A fertile hollow on the road divides, the right hand going through the picturesque old village of *Sellera*, and on up the Clusone valley, while the one to the left, rising gradually after sundry puzzling curves and bends round a very green hummock, makes a final big curve, always on the upward grade, to the village of *Pianico*, which lies not far from the Val Cavallina.

There was still no sign of the railway station, and the road had to be followed through the village, and along another straight bit of road, when at last a curve to the right disclosed a wayside station hut, without a platform but with a few trucks standing on a line.

On making inquiries at the neighbouring "osteria," as there was no one to be seen at the station, we were told that there was no train running that day to Bergamo at midday, as it only goes three times in the week, and our spirits sank into our shoes, for the horse who had brought us from Iseo absolutely declined to go any farther until he had had a rest and food, and had been induced only with great difficulty to leave the village of Pianico. The "osteria" held out no hopes of comfort if we were forced to take refuge in it, and we too should have been glad to rest our wearied eyes, that

LAGO DI GARDA

were quite tired with the unwonted glare of the sunlight, which had not gladdened us for some weeks, and also with watching and drinking in the magnificent scenery we had passed through. After cross-examining the stationmaster at the "osteria," which was filled with workmen drinking and smoking, the information was extracted from him that as it was market day at Lóvere a cattle train would be passing through in half an hour, on which there was one passenger carriage for the men of all sorts and conditions who had been buying and selling at Lóvere.

We declared our intention of travelling by it, but the stationmaster said it was quite impossible for two ladies to do so, as the men would be decidedly hilarious if they had been successful in their cattle bargains.

Nothing daunted, the two ladies in the meantime proceeded to refresh themselves with provisions, with which they had provided themselves before leaving Iseo, and were revived by that and some good local wine procured at the "osteria." Declining to enter the building they seated themselves in front of it, where at the same time they could keep a wary eye on the suit-cases which had been placed at the station shed. Here they were surrounded by a happy family of cocks and hens, to say nothing of a turkey, who was so slow in his movements while spreading out his tail that he allowed the hens to snatch the fragments of food thrown out from under his nose.

The half hour passed by and tickets were procured to Bergamo, second class, as the one carriage was so labelled, in spite of the probable description of the expected travellers.

A sound of puffing and snorting, with lowing of cattle, assailed our ears, and round a rising curve appeared by slow degrees, a small engine drawing seven cattle trucks all crammed full of animals, who expressed their objections loudly at being packed into such close quarters, although they had air to breathe as the trucks were uncovered, with laths only at the upper part of the sides, so that they could put their noses between them.

Behind the trucks, at the end, came the one solitary passenger carriage, which was already too full when it

LAGO ISEO DRIVE—ISEO TO PIANICO

arrived ; but the men from the “ osteria ” rushed out and fought for the remaining seats.

We decided that the platform at the back was the only possibility for us, so with a mighty heave the stronger lady deposited the suit-cases on it, and the guard of the train came and dislodged one man from the outside off gate so that we could have the corners, and we resigned ourselves to standing for our two hours' journey.

Fortunately the weather was bright and sunny, and we were sheltered from the wind by being at the back, while our view over the valley and mountains was unimpeded.

The carriage inside afforded thirty-two seats, but as many more were required, and every man was provided with a walking-stick ; the travellers borrowed from those provided with seats and extemporized another eight seats by putting together as many sticks as were available. That provided sitting accommodation inside for forty men, but there still remained eight standing on the platform and two sitting on the steps on the front platform of the carriage, while eight more were likewise accommodated on the back platform, besides our two selves ; thus making the grand total of sixty human beings on that one passenger carriage, while the head of cattle must have doubled that number.

The stationmaster had been right in his prognostications, for the men had imbibed a good deal before they started, and very thankful were we for our outside positions. To say nothing of smoke and “ fug,” the men beguiled the time with knocking off one another's hats, lighting spills of paper, which they put on the seat of any man who stood up for an instant, hoping he would sit down on it, and tickling up their neighbours' noses with them, and other schoolboy pranks. Those standing on the platforms leant over and joined in the fun.

The railway line fortunately ran along the side of the main road, so that we did not feel so shut off from civilization as we should have done had we been inside the carriage. Besides which, after the men had satisfied their first curiosity by looking us well over, the only point that exercised their minds was as to what country we could possibly belong, and

LAGO DI GARDA

speculation was rife among them, and betting on the subject was started.

The guard of the train was quite a polite man, and evidently considered that we were more or less under his care, and came, when possible, to see that we were all right.

The men deputed him to find out about our nationality, so he came and entered into a long conversation, for he had been in the war and served in a mixed mess of Italians and English, and was quite sure in his own mind that we were not Germans but belonged to their allies. He was very pleased to find that he was right, and kept a watchful eye over our safety. Half the men got out at *Trescore*, at the junction of Val Cavallina, where there are springs and baths and a chapel painted by Lorenzo Lotto, and a picture in the parish church by Salmeggia; so then he invited us to sit inside, but we declined with thanks as we wished to enjoy the lovely scenery through which we were passing, and the slowness of the train gave us ample time to take it in.

The guard waxed eloquent over war reminiscences and was much struck by the amount of beef and jam which "Tommy" consumed, and considered the joints were dished up in a most unappetizing manner. The jam met with his approval, and when going home on leave he was presented first with one tin of it, and when he said he had a wife and children a second was given for their benefit. This got him into trouble on the way, for when his superiors found him in possession of *two* tins they thought he had come by them unlawfully and wished to deprive him of them.

The Italians picked up by the wayside many a vest discarded by our "Tommies" as unfit for further use (and rightly so), which the Italian carefully enclosed in a tin and boiled, thus rendering it wearable again and keeping him supplied until this day, as a friend of his had collected fifteen in this way, which would last him a lifetime. One outstanding feature of the "Tommy" which struck him was the frequency with which he shaved, which he illustrated by stroking his own unshaven chin, meanwhile saying,

PIANICO TO BERGAMO

“Semper pulissi e bottoni.” (“Always shaving and always cleaning the buttons”). He parted from us very reluctantly and we received not the slightest discourtesy from any man on the train.

PIANICO TO BERGAMO

When the train starts from Pianico it winds up a green valley with a range of hills with undulating ridge and passes the pretty little lake of *Gaiamo*, fringed with reeds.

The journey is now continued down the Val Cavallina, (so called because the Venetian Republic made a horse-breeding place of it), which was remarkably green and refreshing to the eye, probably due to the heavy rains which had prevailed for weeks.

The small stream flows through this lake (*Gaiamo*) to Lago Iseo at Castro. The road then runs east and west until it reaches the village and lake of *Endine*, and from here, on looking from the saddle on which *Solto* is situated there is a fine and final view of Corno Trenta Passi and Monte Guglielmo behind it. The lake is very long and narrow and winds so much that you cannot see the whole length of it at any one time. There are brown mountains covered with scrub to the north-west, and from the middle of the lake to the west is a cart-track up the V. Rossa to the parallel Valle Seriana leading from Clusone to Bergamo.

As the end of the lake is neared the village of *Spinone* is sighted, with a charming old church, and on the opposite shore of the lake is the picturesque village of *Monasterolo del Castello*.

No more is seen of the lake and the valley alters its aspect; the small village of *Casazza*, with two churches—one very small and old and a large new one beside it with a figure on the top of it comes into sight.

The railway runs along the side of the road without any division or protection as far as *Trescore Balenario* (bathing sulphur springs), and here the hills are left behind, the road continues westward across a bit of plain, until it runs between

LAGO DI GARDA

two low hills, and from here it does not follow all the windings of the road, which goes to various small agricultural villages, but takes short-cuts across green fields under cultivation.

To the north lie undulating hills; farther away and looking up the Serio River the entrance to Val Seriate is seen in the distance. This is only one of the many beautiful valleys that can be explored from Bergamo.

BERGAMO

Ahead, across the plains, the old, picturesque town of Bergamo is seen spread out on the ridge of a hill, and the walls which still encircle it can be easily distinguished about half-way up it. The many towers are silhouetted against the sunset sky.

There is no station for the cattle train, which runs through some of the streets of the lower town, and then finally draws up in the middle of the Via Paleocapa, where the engine and trucks are detached and the sole passenger carriage, of which we were the only occupants by this time, was left stranded on the road.

As none but cattle-drovers were the usual arrivals there were naturally no porters, so I remained behind to watch over the safety of the suit-cases while a hotel was sought for.

This took some time, and I was heartily tired with three hours' standing, and hailed with joy the sight of a concierge bearing the badge of the Hotel Maderno.

This at the time was not very comfortable, as running water was being installed in the bedrooms and the hot supply was cut off, and painters and decorators were also in possession, so it would probably have been better to go to the Cappello d'Oro at the Porta Nuovo.

The town of Bergamo is divided into two distinct parts—that of the Middle Ages, the Città Alta, which stands up proudly on a hill within its massive walls and steep ramparts and looks down with contempt upon the modern upstart below, the Città Bassa, or Borgo.



CITTA ALTA BERGAMO, IN DISTANCE

BERGAMO

The old city is on a hill 1,220 feet above the plain, and is backed in the distance by two ranges of hills one behind the other.

It was founded by the Etruscans and fell under the sway of Romans, Goths, and Lombards in turn, then to that of the Visconti of Milan in 1331, and the Venetian Republic in 1428, and now it belongs to the United Kingdom of Italy.

The massive walls and ramparts were constructed by the Venetian Republic from the plans of Paolo Berlendis (1501-1558).

From the main-line railway station to Milano the tram runs through the centre of the town down the Viale Roma ; half-way is the Porta Nuovo and Piazza Cavour, where the fine new buildings have arcades round them and only one story above, so in this way the view of the old town above is not shut off.

The old part of the lower town lies to the west, with some quite picturesque, winding streets with arcaded houses. The very large works of the "Istituto Italiano d'Arti Grafiche" are in this quarter, and this society produces and edits the series of beautifully illustrated descriptive books of the Italian towns. They also publish good maps of the whole of Italy some of which show the motoring roads.

The Borgo has some interesting churches, such as San Spirito, with many good pictures of the sixteenth century and a very fine altar-piece by Borgognone, as well as a Madonna with saints and angels of 1521 by Lotta ; San Bernardino in the Via Pignolo also has an altar-piece by Lotta ; and good pictures are to be found in Sant' Alessandro della Croce and San Benedetto.

Sant' Alessandro in Colonna at the foot of the hill outside the city gate has a column into which precious relics of antiquity have been built, and tradition says that this is the site of the martyrdom of Sant' Alessandro.

Alessandro was the standard-bearer of a legion of the Roman army known as "The Theban," of which all the members were Christians, who were put to the sword because they refused to persecute their fellow-Christians.

LAGO DI GARDA

Alessandro was beheaded outside the city gate, and Grada, the daughter of the Duke Lupo, herself a Christian, obtained possession of his body and gave it Christian^a burial. Later she and her mother founded the cathedral of Bergamo.

From the Torre Comunale the curfew bell is still rung every evening at sunset to invoke the protection of the two patron saints of Bergamo, Sant' Alessandro and the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In the Borgo is "Il Prato," the great fair-ground, and the "Fiera di Sant' Alessandro" is held annually, from the middle of August, for a month, and dates from A.D. 913.

At the junction of the Viale Roma and the Viale Vittorio Emanuele are several public buildings, including the Teatro Donizetti, for Bergamo is noted especially for its glorious musical traditions, and is proud of the names of Donizetti the composer, and of Mayr, Nini, Ponchielli, and Cagnoni.

The road continues under the name of Viale Vittorio Emanuele to the funicular railway leading up to the Città Alta on the hill. Half-way up the two cars pass one another, as they go through and under the city walls. The passengers are put down at the Piazza del Mercato delle Scarpe, and the station itself was formerly a palace built in 1360 and now modernized. The old town is in the shape of a rough triangle with the two corners to the east and west cut off, and the walls and bastions which encircle it are still in perfect condition.

On the top of the former is a very broad, fine promenade planted with walnut trees, which can be entered by the massive Doric gateway of San Giacomo on the south, or by the Porta di Sant' Alessandro at the north-west corner, approached from the former by the Mura di Santa Grata, or in the opposite direction by the Porta Sant' Agostina on the east.

From these shady ramparts of 1581 are lovely views over the green plains covered with mulberry plantations, vineyards, and orchards to the snow-capped mountains in the distance. When the weather is clear in the early morning the towers of Milan and Monza may be seen, together with the Passes of the Alps, Monte Rosa, Monte Viso, and north-



PORTA SAN GIACOMO, BERGAMO

BERGAMO

wards the Apennines, with Cremona and the silvery windings of the River Po in the middle distance.

The old town possesses steep, winding streets, as well as many fine open places, and on leaving the funicular station you go up a narrow street on the right called *Via Gombito*, past a tall, square tower of the same name built in the twelfth century—one of many—and find yourself in the *Piazza Garibaldi*, or *Vecchia*, the centre of the old town.

Here you are surrounded by the most beautiful buildings of Bergamo, which form the chief interest of the place.

To the right on the north side is the *Palazzo Nuovo*, with arcades of the seventeenth century, a part of which is now used as a Natural History Museum and Technical Institute, but in former days it was the Municipio.

In the south-west corner of this piazza is the *Torre del Comune*, from which the curfew bell was, and is still, rung at 10 p.m. and at noon. The lower part is of Roman origin; the upper was rebuilt in the twelfth or thirteenth century.

Leading up to it and the adjoining building is an open staircase, with slim columns on the one side to support the sloping roof over it.

The *Palazzo della Ragione* adjoining it is built on six Gothic arches and extends across the whole width of the *Piazza Garibaldi*, and through the open arches there are peeps of the lovely buildings on the other side. The upper floor now contains the town library, and from a small balcony built out the governors used to address the people in olden days. There is a statue of Tasso against one of the supports of the arches.

The pavement of the piazza has a bold pattern of brick and stone, and in the middle is an octagonal *fountain* guarded by four lions and four posts with serpents twined round them, while the water gushes out of the mouths of two figures.

Passing through the arches of the *Palazzo della Ragione*, or *Palazzo Vecchio*, the *Piazza del Duomo* is entered and immediately on the left is "*Il Duomo*."

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This cathedral is dedicated to San' Alessandro since 1638 and was added to and altered by many architects, and the fine cupola, which can be seen from all parts of the surrounding country, is its outstanding feature. There are some good paintings and wood carvings and a series of bas-reliefs.

Opposite to the Duomo on the west side of the piazza is "*Il Battistero*," which once stood inside the Duomo, but was replaced in 1865 by a modern one.

This beautiful little octagonal temple of 1340 was taken down from the centre of the cathedral in the seventeenth century, and after being moved about several times was rebuilt in the open on the Piazza del Duomo. It consists of rare-coloured marbles, with slender little columns on the upper tier supporting the octagonal roof, with an angel at each corner, and another for the pinnacle. Inside there are marble reliefs and various small statues. It was restored in 1850, and is said to have been originally designed by Giovanni da Campione.

There remain two buildings on the south side of the piazza which are the glory of Bergamo—the basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore and the Cappella Colleoni.

The basilica of *Santa Maria Maggiore*, dedicated to the Virgin, is on the site of a small church which stood there in A.D. 774. In 1133 there was a terrible drought in Bergamo, followed by famine and pestilence, after which the inhabitants who survived decided to erect a better shrine for the Mother of Mercy, whose assistance they had invoked.

Bishop Gregorio of Bergamo laid the first stone of it in 1137, and it became the finest Lombard building in Italy, with lovely marble facings.

The beautiful north portal is the work of Giovanni Campilioni, and both father and son gave all their energies to its achievement.

Resting on the backs of two standing lions are slender columns of the red marble of Verona supporting a rounded arch with delicate marble tracery.

Above it is a figure of San Alessandro on horseback, in a Gothic shrine of red and grey marble, and on either side



BATTISTERO, BERGAMO

BERGAMO

statues of San Barnaba and San Proietto, while above that again the Virgin with the Babe smiles down upon the world. On either side are Sant' Esteria and Santa Grata, the work of Andreolo de Blanchis. This was surmounted by a huge cross of chiselled marble, which is now preserved in the treasure-house.

The walls are of alternate courses of white and dark marble.

The fine apse by Giovanni Campiglione has a semicircular arcade, and an elongated octagonal campanile surmounts the building in three tiers, with open arcades round each, topped by a pointed steeple of the twelfth century, which was rebuilt in 1685.

The south portal is not nearly so fine as the north, but it has a quaint sort of Gothic spire built into the fourteenth century wall. Enclosed in the shrine is a sculptured figure of God the Father, with the Virgin on one side and the Archangel Gabriel on the other.

The interior has Gothic arches and is covered with stucco and painted in a most ornate style. The painting of 1623 of Santa Grata with the head of Sant' Alessandro after his martyrdom should be noticed.

The best bit of work in the church is the inlaid wood of the choir stalls by the Bergamasque Capo di Ferro and other masters of that work in the sixteenth century. The effect is of highly finished paintings, and the whole work is preserved by wooden covers.

The carved wood chancel screen and confessionals, by Stefano da Bergamo, are very beautiful, and also the tarsia work representing scriptural subjects. There are some good tapestries in the sacristy and a fine iron balustrade to the pulpit.

The south door is entered from the Piazza Rosate, and opposite it is the Ginnasio-Liceo with a Doric colonnade by Frederico Civelli, and from here there is an extensive view over the surrounding country.

LAGO DI GARDA

LA CAPELLA COLLEONI

Adjoining the basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore is a small rectangular chapel, which was originally the sacristy of the church, but was rebuilt in 1470 by the hero of Bergamo, Bartolomeo Colleoni, as a mausoleum for himself.

The father of Bartolomeo was a distinguished Guelph, who was driven from his home by the Visconti, and the boy spent his early years either in a dungeon or in great poverty, and started life as a page-boy with nothing but his wits and high courage to spur him on.

When old enough he began his military education as a simple trooper under Braccio, the first commander of the day, as he intended to fit himself as a "condottiere" or captain of fortune; and step by step he rose to ever higher commands, until he obtained the highest of all, being appointed General-in-Chief of all the military forces of the Venetian Republic in 1455. This he retained for twenty years, until his death in 1475.

As a general he was noted for caution with audacity, honesty with justice, and all places in Bergamasque territory owed good works to his generosity.

The Cappella Colleoni is an example of the most famous style of the Renaissance period, not only in its architecture but its decoration also. This beautiful chapel was designed by Giovanni Amadeo of Pavia, who was rich in fancy and told his stories in coloured marbles. He was the architect of Milan Cathedral.

The façade is of variegated marbles, with a series of panels describing the creation and fall of man, and below is depicted a children's concert of pipe, lute, and song; flanking these are scenes of four of the labours of Hercules. Lower down are pilasters, statuettes, busts, and medallions against a background of red, black, and cream-tinted marbles, all with the finest detail.

In the centre is a rich rose window of marbles like a fretwork of ivory, and above it a lovely arcading on slender pillars, the tops of the double arches filled in with pierced



PORTAL STA. MARIA MAGGIORE, BERGAMO

LA CAPELLA COLLEONI

marble. On either side of the window are busts of Julius Cæsar and Augustus.

The magnificent external bronze railings were the work of Giovanni Lomazzi of Milan, and the designer was Virginio Muzio.

In the interior the ceiling was painted by Tiepolo.

The main interest lies in the tomb of Colleoni and that of his daughter Medea, both by G. Amadeo.

There is a stern, virile expression on the face of the triumphant general as he lies on his sarcophagus, which is quite in keeping with his character, and there are beautiful marble bas-reliefs of New Testament subjects, with four statues of the captains of his army. Upon the urn above stands an equestrian statue of him in gilded wood, which was added in 1501 by Sisto Siry di Norimberga.

Opposite the main altar in the same chapel is the tomb of his daughter Medea, the child of his old age, who died at the age of sixteen. This was built by Colleoni to her memory and was placed at first in the Dominican Monastery of Santa Maria of Basella and removed to the Capella Colleoni in 1842.

It is a most beautiful piece of work, and the sweet, pure face of the maiden is so well depicted on the tomb, on the lower part of which are three lovely panels.

There are some fine inlaid choir stalls, and these are covered up for fear of injury when Mass is said for the Colleoni family every morning in this chapel.

His favourite abode was the *Castle of Malpaga*, about 16 km. from Bergamo on the road to Brescia. It is a quadrangular building with forked battlements and corner towers, one of which has an overhanging machicolated parapet, an outer wall of defence, drawbridge, and moat. Around it were the dwellings of the retainers, for Colleoni had a retinue of 600 horsemen.

The walls of the courtyard are covered with frescoes, as well as the rooms. A staircase leads to the upper floor with a pretty loggia and the state reception-room, where are frescoes by Romanino depicting some of the chief events in the life of Colleoni. From the tower there is a fine view over the hills of Bergamo and the nearer Alps.

LAGO DI GARDA

On his death the castle went to a member of the princely family of Martinengo, and remained in their hands till 1858, when it was bought by a gentleman of Bergamo, and is now used as a farm-house and for the rearing of silkworms.

The castle is well worth seeing, being a typical example of a stronghold of the Middle Ages, showing how the lords of those times safeguarded themselves from their foes.

A tram goes from Bergamo to Seriate eastwards, and from there it is under 5 km. to the castle.

Colleoni bequeathed his town house in Bergamo to the city to be used as an orphanage. It is in the Via Bartolomeo Colleoni, close to the Palazzo Nuovo, and has a fine classical portal and front, and inside a splendid room with allegorical pictures, one painted by Morone.

Adjoining Santa Maria Maggiore is the Ateneo, containing a museum with many interesting inscriptions.

If leaving the Città Alta by the south, the Gate of San Giacomo is carried on high arches from the promenade, and a sloping road winds down under it to the Borgo.

There is a road from the east gate of Sant' Agostino which leads to the *Accademia Carrara*, outside the Porta Santa Caterina.

It consists of three collections of paintings—the *Galleria Carrara*, the *Galleria Lochis*, and the *Galleria Morelli*.

The latter is perhaps the most representative, as it was bequeathed to the town by a native in 1891, Giovanni Morelli, the great art connoisseur, and contains Florentine works as well as those of the painters of Lombardy.

The *Galleria Carrara* was bequeathed in 1796 by Conte Giacomo Carrara, who founded the gallery, and the collections consist of Bergamesque and North Italian pictures.

The *Galleria Lochis* was bequeathed in 1859, and possesses a picture by Raffael and others by Foppa, Borgognone (whose picture in the Church of San Spirito is one of the glories of Bergamo), Belline, Lotto, Tiepolo, Guardi, and many others, as well as of painters of the Venetian school.

The new town has good modern shops and is a very busy commercial city.



APSE AND CAMPANILE, SANTA MARIA MAGGIORE

MONZA

BERGAMO TO MILANO

From the east gate of Bergamo both road and rail lead by Seriate and Palazzolo on the Oglio direct to Brescia (48 km.).

But we must now turn our backs upon the mountains and follow one of the three routes that lead to Milan (54 km.).

From the south gate of Bergamo it is a straight run by Verdello to Treviglio, where the main-railway between Brescia and Milan can be joined.

From the same a driving road crosses the plain and the River Brembo at Canonica d'Adda and goes in a westerly direction to Milan.

Another railway line goes from Bergamo westward to Usmate, where the train meets another coming from Lecco on Lago Como, and by this a stop can be made at Monza (38 km.) in order to see the cathedral there, and thence it is only 13 km. to Milan.

MONZA

Monza occupies both banks of the River Lambro. The *Duomo of Monza* was erected on the site of a temple, which was built by Theodolinda, Queen of Lombardy. She was the daughter of the King of Bavaria and married the King of the Lombards in 589.

She was so beloved by the people that upon his death, she was made queen in her own right, and the Duke of Turin, whom she afterwards married, became king.

"Il Sacro Chiodo," or celebrated Iron Crown of Monza, is supposed to have been given to her by Gregory the Great, and she was crowned with it, as well as Charlemagne, Frederick Barbarossa, and Charles V, while Napoleon crowned himself with it.

It consists of a thin fillet of iron, which lines the diadem, and it is said to have been hammered out from one of the nails employed at the Crucifixion.

Theodolinda built the original temple in A.D. 595 by the side of her palace, for she converted the pagan Lombards

LAGO DI GARDA

to Christianity, and she was buried in it, but it was reconstructed by Matteo Visconti, Lord of Milan, in 1396 from the plans of Matteo di Campione. It contains a series of frescoes.

The picturesque Broletto of the thirteenth century is interesting, and the Church of Santa Maria in Strada has a fine rose window and west façade in terra-cotta.

From Lecco to Monza the road skirts the district known as *La Brianza*, with the subalpine hills, and includes the country between the Adda and the Lambro down to Monza, a very green and fertile region.

Monza is now almost a suburb of Milan and is only 13 km. distant, and here we return to our starting-point, having completed a circular tour which should be a satisfactory one to all tourists.

All round Milan are rice fields, where some of the best rice in the world is grown

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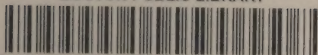
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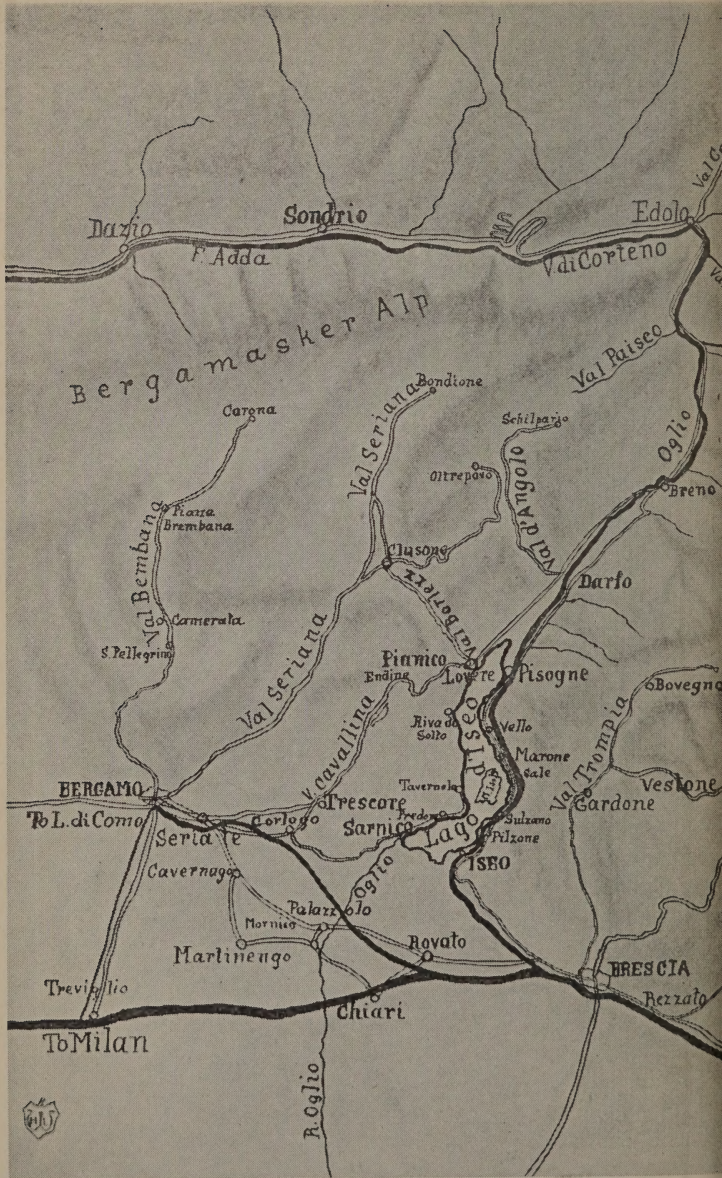
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